

Occultism Applied to Daily Life

# Living the Completely Constructive Life

Excerpt from Course 14, Chapter 2, Occultism Applied to Daily Life

### Constructive Action Must Be Substituted For Irritation and Sorrow.

-Nor usually can we merely set to one side the many incidents that tend to arouse in us the feeling of irritation. Mistakes are made by ourselves or our associates. Unexpected calls upon our attention and energy are demanded. Our employer is sharp spoken or unreasonable, or our employee is a blunderer and an incompetent. The wife nags or the husband is cross. Our mail goes astray. Someone fails to keep an appointment, or keeps us waiting. Bills are received that already have been paid. Our food has been overcooked or undercooked. Our competitor has gained an advantage. We have been snubbed by an acquaintance. And a thousand and one other things occur that tend to irritate us that we cannot afford completely to ignore, but to which, of necessity, we must devote thought and attention.

Now there is just one way to face any and all such situations as these. First, if we have permitted the feeling of irritation to enter, we should, as explained in detail in lesson No. 151 (See Serial Lesson Key), realize that irritation is the survival of a childish trait. Think about the childishness of the irritation until some conviction is felt, then turn the attention resolutely to the problem.

## Come to recognize that every condition that stimulates the feeling of irritation presents a problem to be solved. Irritation is an expression of unwillingness or inability to meet and solve the problem as presented. It indicates weakness, for this situation is a part of life, and as such requires intelligent action. But instead of intelligent action we waste valuable energy in an emotional display because the problem has arisen.

C.C. Zain

Yet all must recognize, who give it thought, that the measure of greatness in life, even the measure of any person's ability, is his willingness and capacity for overcoming obstacles. A man is considered strong when he triumphs over adversity, he is considered weak when he permits opposition of no great moment to deflect him from his purpose or to defeat his aim. Irritation at any situation that arises is a tacit admission for the moment that the situation is baffling, that it presents obstacles beyond the size of the individual to cope with successfully. The individual's desire to shirk the responsibility of meeting it expresses itself as emotion.

We should not choose for president of our country or for other high office, a man who often permitted himself to be irritated or oppressed by the inefficiency of his office staff, or by the mistakes of his subordinates. Instead we would expect him to remedy the conditions which tended to irritate. Unwillingness to meet the numerous small problems that tend to give rise to annoyance clearly shows that the job is too big for the man. It shows that the person is as yet unfit for heavy responsibilities.

There is only one proper way in which to meet every obstacle, every mistake that has been made, every loss that has been sustained, every problem that presents itself. That way is to view the matter coolly, unemotionally, and confidently, with determination to find the best course of action possible under the circumstances. Instead of expending energy emotionally, energy should be spent constructively. Instead of thinking; Why did that have to happen?; we should think; What is the best thing to do now? The energy should be diverted instantly, first to analyzing and formulating a plan of action, and then to carrying it out. Instead of energy being consumed in destructive irritation and annoyance, it all should move toward correcting the situation.

This applies also to loss and to those events which tend to occasion disappointment and sorrow. Life is not so ordered that we logically can expect to avoid periods when loss will occur. Our friends and relatives, some of them, will die. Mistakes will occur in which Summer Issue ISSN: 009-6520 Vol. 75, No.3

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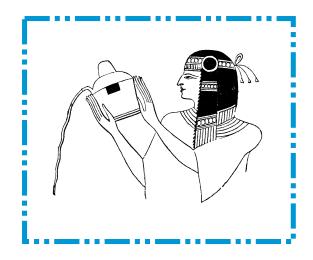
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# Editorial



# CofL Members Respond to Vision 21

Paul M. Brewer, President, Hermetician, Minister

Recently, the entire membership was mailed the Vision 21 pamphlet that communicated the Church of Light's Vision for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This vision derives from the Church's basic mission (to teach, practice and disseminate the Religion of the Stars) and its core tenets. While the vision evolved from a process undertaken by the CofL Board of Directors, it also reflects the inputs from a significant number of CofL members.

When the pamphlet was mailed, each CofL member was asked to respond with their thoughts and comments. Most of us at headquarters were genuinely surprised by the scope and depth of member response. Almost all of the comments were constructive with many good ideas.

As promised, a representative sampling of the comments is included at the end of this editorial. Now, you can look over the comments and form your own conclusions. Some comments received at headquarters were communicated either in person or over the phone. While such verbal responses could not be used, they are representative of what is included here.

Without your comments, CofL leadership cannot shape goals and action that reflect and balance member needs with the CofL mission. Each person who took the time and made the effort to share their ideas is deeply appreciated. While most comments have been favorable, some are not. Please be assured that concerns of an unfavorable nature are valued, heeded and important for maintaining a balanced approach.

Some questioned how the CofL could realize such ambitious goals. The answer to this lies in having a good plan and working together. In fact, CofL management is working hard right now to put together an implementation plan that will ensure the success of our founders vision and bring it into the new century. This plan includes the following key features:

- △ A dynamic and attractive web site that provides access, for both members and the public, to all the resources available at headquarters.
- △ An expanded advertising program that points people to the CofL web site where they can see in de-

tail the benefits of the BofL Lessons by C. C. Zain. We can now do this more cost effectively because all we have to do is get their attention and then point them to our web site.

- △ A new logo (the one you now see on our stationary) that presents a bright, cheery face to the public. It is a stylized version of the Egyptian hieroglyph "Akhet" (horizon of the rising Sun) designed by our brother Pharaoh Akhenaten. It is not meant to replace the BofL emblem, but merely be an attractive gateway to the wonders in store for those who look deeper. See the Membership Room in this Quarterly for more details on the new logo.
- $\triangle$  Easy to understand pamphlets that explains BofL philosophy to the masses.
- △ A new program to promote study groups, CofL Centers and Branch Churches world wide including a starter package of materials, equipment and books to get them started. Stay tuned to the under-construction *Building a Better World* (Mars) page on the Church's web site for more details.
- △ Trained Stellarian Practitioners that minister to people using our advanced techniques of astrology, alchemy and visualization/demonstration via directed thinking and induced emotion.
- $\bigtriangleup$  An academy of astrology that provides the best curriculum available for students.
- $\bigtriangleup$  The new Order of the Sphinx to promote advanced studies for Hermeticians.

Achieving 10 million members over the next 30 years may seem like a great leap from where the Church stands (about 2500 current and inactive members on file). However, it seems a lot easier when you look at the small steps that are required. Growth tends to be exponential, so the CofL only needs to achieve 2500 active members by the end of 2001 and 6500 active members by the end of 2004. At that rate of growth, we will meet our long-term goals.

Several of us from headquarters recently attended the AFA 2000 Conference in Las Vegas. The Church of Light had seven speakers at that convention. The talk heard at our booth, in the hallways and in the classrooms at the conference

was that the Church of Light had the most well prepared speakers and, more importantly, the best material. Look for details of the AFA convention in our next Quarterly. In the meantime, I can tell you that I am very excited about the impact that the CofL made and what it can do in the future. I think the Church has made a great start on a long journey. Together, we can make this happen.



# Members' comments on the vision statement.

These are some of the many comments received via e-mail and snail mail. "Thanks" to the many members who responded. For those of you who wish to continue this discussion, the **Forum in the Membership Room** on the CofL's new web site is the perfect place to leave comments which can be discussed by other members and which will support CofL headquarters being better informed about member interests. The address is www.light.org.

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Everything happens in its time. And when the timing is right, the church will fulfill its destiny. We are the custodians of its heritage, its message. We are the preservers and the spreaders of that message. There is a certain evolution of consciousness that is taking place today. Over time the message of the Church of Light will be seen in universal light. It is a message to be seen and spread by the common people. (Moon & Saturn in the 1st house.) It takes time.

There is a saying that, when the student is ready, the teacher will appear. When a person is ready, we have to ensure that the Church of Light is there. (I prefer the term "Brotherhood" to "Church.")

I see the Brotherhood/Church as an organization of individuals (Uranus) recognizing diversity, and developing a vision (Neptune) for universal welfare (Pluto). It is our belief in that universal welfare that makes us the organization we are.

As we continue to discuss who we are as a Church, I would like to see more discussion of what our plans are in light of what our chart is saying. Are we in synch with the energy that is being triggered? Are we making plans to use that energy and how best can we use it? These are more important questions as far as I am concerned because then we are practicing what we are preaching. And if we are doing that, then we will become the Church that Zain speaks of. Light, Life, & Love, Patricia Beard

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10 million members by 2028 — "Awesome". Simplified Lessons — for the masses...excellent....Love, Light & Laugher Mary Ann

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5-22-00: Still reading and pondering "Vision...." and will send my response later. Thank you for all the loving work. Marianne

Your vision of the 21st century looks good to us. Light, Life, & Love, Jewell & William Richman

#### \*\*\*\*\*

I wanted to share some of my ideas & thoughts with you.

I like what you say in regards to goals & objectives for 2000 in the Quarterly. Also I like what is stated in "A Vision for the 21st Century".

The year 2000 is a year in which I personally can endeavor to support the Church of Light more than I have in the past....Suggestion Box:

1. Once a month feature an exam question in the Quarterly, then list the answer somewhere.

2. Have an annual sponsorship for the hardbound reprint of one of the courses so students can build a deluxe library!

May ample  $\checkmark$  power and bless the C. Of L. In all it undertakes! BG

#### \*\*\*\*\*

Great! I would like to assist by offering to lecture on CofL material at local metaphysical events to attract more members. Any ideas? I can also offer to do counseling and church stuff if you ever have services. LLL Pat Ramsey 5-20-2000.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

I loved the vision statement! Superb! I also would like to see member outreach for those of us in isolated areas who know nobody involved in CofL type thinking. I also would envision a Hermetic Counseling Center where people can get assistance with personal amd maybe (within legal limits of course) physical problems. This could be done using astrology, tarot, and mental/spiritual alchemy. The mental alchemy assistance with personal problems is an idea for a feature in the Quarterly that I would like to see the Quarterly expand. I always feel it's way too short, and I want more of it! I really miss the member profiles, the analysis and predictions of current events, and would wonder if its possible to once again list members names and addresses who request correspondence from other members. However, I do understand why that was pulled from the Quarterly. I also wonder what plans, however currently sketchy, are there in place on just how exactly are we to accomplish the vision?

For example, just how do we round up 10 million members by 2028? (How many are there now?) Thanks so much to the board, staff and active volunteers for their tireless efforts to keep the CofL thriving. I don't know what I'd do without it! Delilah Cooper

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I think these goals for the 21st century are very optimistic, although the accomplishment of even half of them would give me great joy. I would like to see a little more emphasis on the Sacred Tarot as a tool for spiritual growth. Although I've been out of touch for a time, I plan on continuing the CofL courses as soon as I can afford to. The CofL has bettered my life and given me direction. With warmest regards, Charles E. Dugger

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I wish to thank you for this vision of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century of the CofL. It can happen you optimistically exclaim. I'm hoping you are right. The competition with all the "religions" both "old time" and "New Age" will be quite challenging, to say the least! The Aquarian Age is certainly making itself known to the Piscean establishments which, in turn, creates panic to the fundamental foundations of Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and minor religious dogmas of our day. Therefore, the growing Unitarian Universalist movement, Green (political) party, Wicca, and New Age expose everywhere, are seen as the instruments of the Devil in this time of rebirthing the New Age of . Be patient and persevere. The Force is with you! Don Brooks Smith

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I can't afford to help you and can't afford not to! What a deal! (Donation enclosed) Carry on!! Bonnie Fesler

#### \*\*\*\*\*

I have read the new mission statement and I am glad to hear the mission is to disseminate the teachings to the masses. I believe the timing is ripe, and the teachings will be accepted 10,000 fold in the next 30 years. I also believe it is inevitable that millions will become part of the Church of Light and its understanding of the Soul's heritage and perpetual continuance! It is coming! Light, Life, & Love, Jason-Corey Bullard

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Not until true balance is returned in Man's concept of God, can we truly evolve. The Goddess must be seen as God's equal. Risen Man must see the balance of male and female in all things as Nature's Truth or we can never be whole or see the whole. I have a vision of a future religion and Heaven's Truth is at its core! Blessings, Darrin Shatner

#### \*\*\*\*\*

For me. 10.000.000 members in 30 years is shoo-in. The demographics are stacked in that direction. The Baby Boomers are finding out about mortality as their parents pass to the next life. Some of the Boomers have peers that have made the transfer already, and the older Boomers themselves are getting the message that they too are going to outwear their bodies sooner or later. Increasing visits to cemeteries and doctor's offices often turn one's thinking to the spiritual questions. Members of "Gen-X", the generation following the Boomers, already have been asking the question "what is the difference between spirituality and organized religion?"

As far as size goes, the question is not so much "Can the vision of 10,000,000 members happen?", but "How can the Church of Light be prepared when it does?" Be well, Bill Jeffrey

#### \*\*\*\*\*

Dear BofL, and I mean dear & precious, Re: Booklet by the title "A Vision for the 21st Century.

The only dangers in passing knowledge are:

- Possible distortion of the LOGOS (knowledge)

- Possible use of knowledge by the few unworthy for their selfish purposes. In which case, Innocent Knowledge becomes a weapon against the innocent. (Compare the Elefsinian Mysteries to modern Free Masonry).

- Confucius said, that when a philosophy is widely spread, there are always the ones who use it and use the innocent followers for their own purposes. I suppose there must be some unwritten law concerning balance. You cannot have only good, because the scale will fall to one side....

The BofL has benefit so far because of a man with an analytical mind, who took this knowledge and worked his way through, reaching the core by stripping the gross to leave clean the fine ....

Truly faithfully and definitely yours Yanna Brouzou (Attiki GREECE)

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RE A VISION FOR THE 21st CEN-TURY: I am pleased about the vision, and I wish you all the success. I am also very proud to be a member and I sincerely believe that the work and teachings of Zain are very enlightening. I sincerely must say as a member I should give you my honest opinion. I have studied astrology and spiritual matters for almost all my life, and I really do believe that there are supernatural powers and forces that effect us, and I know that we all have a Universal obligation and bond to deity. However not all people believe and see things the way we do, and I think the people that are members of the Church of Light are a special group of people, who are willing to study the golden key, but there are those who will not evolve and will remain ignorant.

It was only a few years ago when an American religious group knocked on my door and accused me of worshiping the devil because I study astrology, this did not deter me in any way, in fact I felt pity for these poor people.

I came to the Church of Light through my own discovery and decision, I think I came at a time when the student was ready and the master was ready to teach.

I think as members we can only pray to deity to enlighten the souls that are ready to learn more and to come to the church, all members should bind in thought at the most beneficial astrological time to call upon those who are ready, imagine the power that could be generated? Perhaps higher forces will naturally attract what is needed?

When I wanted to become a member I was sternly warned that I would be join-

ing a cult, and those who are ignorant still believe so. This I feel is an area which needs to be considered.

I must confess that the church has only opened my mind and my concept and knowledge is greater of the Universe than it has ever been before.

I wish the Church all the success in the world with their vision and I am willing to help and contribute where I can.

The Church and their members must make an effort to enlighten people and share the teachings and knowledge wherever possible, any religion that benefits mankind is important.....Love, Light Peace and Trines to All from Angela in Australia.

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Keep up the good work and please keep me informed on new classes. I would like to continue to learn but my schedule seems to be tuff. Thank you. Paula Greene

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Thank you for the booklet. I'm only interested in the astrological data and would like your latest price list on books, ephemeris and charts. Sincerely, Rachael G. Malone

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To All, I don't think we have any chance of attracting a large following until we succeed in creating a happy, harmonious, atmosphere that a person can really feel. The C. O. L. Mantram should be incorporated into every meeting to set the tone of the proceedings. Don't forget the initiation of those with new degrees. Virginia and I were very impressed with the initiation at the Elks Club. The wonderful script is right there in the Sacred Tarot. On the subject of Mantram, I do get some criticism of paragraph 5 which takes a little get used to. I have explained it as a logical extension of paragraph 4 as part of the idea of mastership. The men of Unity get together one evening a week and we are starting our meetings with the the C.O.L. Mantram. Hopefully, I can kindle some interest in the Church material. L.L.L. Don Schmit

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Dear COL Board of Directors and friends: In EVOLUTION OF RELI-GION by C C Zain, The Stellarian Religion Chapter, 3rd paragraph Zain states, "that The Religion of the Stars will become the world religion of the future." This looks like a prediction to me, as opposed to an established fact. In the next paragraph Zain starts with this "It is inevitable it will in time become the world religion ... " and he concludes the paragraph with this sentence, "The Religion of the Stars includes only demonstrated facts and logical inferences derived from them ... " Concerning the use of the word 'inevitable' and the phrase 'the world religion' (not one of the world religions, but the world religion), I think Zain has strayed far from the land of facts and logical inferences. Zain then goes on to state that "materialism is bound to crumble," and that "orthodoxy also is bound to crumble."

Now at some point in the near or very distant future, Zain may prove prophetic on all of these beliefs, but none of these speculations was a fact in 1950 or fifty years later at the beginning of the year 2000.

At this time I am concerned that the public might think that the COL is delusional if we promote The Church of Light as "the world religion of the future." Therefore, if in our vision statement, we want to use a slogan, I would much prefer that we use the educational and uplifting phrase, "contribute your utmost to universal welfare." Sincerely, Dave Carrothers

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What is a religion? I think religion has a philosophical aspect, but is more essentially a way of practice — something done, or things restrained, not things believed in. Scrape away the orthodoxy and the coercion and the inversion, and what is left in each of the great religions is revelatory guidance on the way to live and practice in order to allow the joy of conscious immersion in the Deity. The essence of religion is available to the simplest person who has simple faith in the Deity and turns there for guidance and help, and I think even the simplest person who does this whether in or out of any of the world's religions is a step closer to true religion than the most sophisticated and intelligent Hermetician who does not do this. Once a Muslim teacher was greatly slandered and despised by many, and the local ruler was called on to execute him. The ruler gathered information on the man, and spared him, because he was unable to find a single witness who had ever heard this man speak an ill word of anyone, even his enemies. The ruler said that the man must be a man of true religion, because it was such a rare thing for anyone to restrain their tongue in such a way. His religion to him wasn't something he believed in but which he practiced. The big pieces of all the religions are to spend a part of the day praying or meditating to gain guidance and help from Deity; to practice charity in such a way that the character is transformed from its selfishness, to practice restraint and discipline over the rampant urges of the lower self in a harmonious way, To act and speak about other people as we would like to be acted toward and spoken about, to seek guidance from revelatory writings, to practice justice, to practice responsibility in sexual matters, and to cultivate the awareness that life continues beyond the grave and that our actions in this world affect our station in the next. All of those are practices, not beliefs. The teachings of the Church of Light have been a cornerstone in my own spiritual life, and have guided and permitted me to render several great services to humanity. In this respect it has gone beyond what a regular religion can provide, and has been indispensable to my own happiness and fulfillment. However, I find the teachings incomplete as far as my own day-to-day religious needs are concerned, and the emphasis of the organization seems to be on learning and philosophy and belief rather than on devotional practice. I also have trouble seeing how the teachings in their current form will ever be taken up by the common people. It's my opinion that the role of the Church is not

that of a religion, but of a brother-sisterhood who aim and ability is to empower those who can assimilate and apply the teachings to render genuine service to the civilization beyond simple propagation of the teachings in such a way as to better the lot of humanity. Paul Bergner

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....Whatever we do should be done with joy and expectation when building a Mission statement. We should start with ourselves and examine our reasons for coming into the C of L. We should build from there in a respectful and harmonious manner...LLL-Joan Titsworth

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Hello from the hinterlands of Washington. I have a few comments re. the current endeavor. I realise that I am out of the circle of what has happened to date and speak mainly from "what has been".

Having began studying the lessons in 1947 I have lived with them a long time and have a, perhaps uncalled for, feeling of familiarity with them. I feel that the lessons are different things to each individual. To some they are a replacement for their former religion, for some they are a vehicle for the introduction to Hermetic philosophy, for still others they are a way-point on the journey we call existence. I feel that to define the organization and it's purpose too narrowly will cause many to shy away. Many will avoid us if we define ourselves as a religion because they are in the process of escaping from a stifling religion and its attendant dogmas. That is not to say that the Church cannot be a powerful religion for some. I have always approached the CofL as "here we are how can we help you?". We can be what each individual will make of us.

"Nuff said" from this sector. However, if I recall correctly one of the reasons that the organization was incorporated as a church in the first place was to circumvent the "Fortune Telling" laws then extant in California which prevented the teaching of many of the subjects covered by our lessons. Ivan Buffington <del>«</del>

# Church of Light members can communicate with one another on their web site at www.light.org!

The Forum is in the Membership Room (Moon section of the web site)

#### Continued from Page 1

we will lose money. Events at times fall out in a manner that is decidedly distasteful, and perhaps imperils life, honor, or financial standing. Yet all time and energy spent grieving, feeling hurt, or in despondency not only tend to attract more misfortune in the future through building discords into the thought-cells within the astral body, but consumes energy that well could be used to remedy conditions.

Not all conditions can be remedied in the sense that a particular loss can be recovered; but at least the energy can be diverted into some channel that will bring, instead of additional loss in the future, some gain. If, after-careful reflection, it is decided that a loss is of a nature that it cannot be recovered, or a situation cannot be remedied, it should as quickly and as thoroughly be dismissed from the mind. Pleasant thoughts may be used to drive it out, as already explained. But if there is anything that can be done to retrieve the loss, or to remedy the mistake, the mind should so concentrate on this

constructive effort that there is no room in it for thoughts and emotions concerning the loss or other disagreeable occurrence.

## Effort At Self Improvement Must Be Substituted For Self Pity

—Still another type of disintegrative thought which is commonly met is self-pity. It manifests in quite a variety of forms; but the most usual are sensitiveness to criticism and slight, or otherwise permitting others to hurt the feelings; the thought that one does not

When the actions of the individual are directed to work that assists the Divine Plan of progression, and his thoughts, actions and feelings are habitually pleasant, he has entered into the completely constructive life. receive fair treatment at the hands of fate, or proper recognition for meritorious actions and the conviction that one has an unusually hard time in life, a much harder time of it than most people.

Any such manifestation of self-pity, when we stop to analyze it, is seen to be a form of cowardice. It is one way in which the proverbial streak of yellow comes to the surface.

No one has the power to injure our feelings except as we permit it. If another person's actions are unjust, our conviction that he is malicious or misguided should turn immediately to a consideration if it is better to ignore the matter or to take some remedial action. Of course, if we magnify our importance, such megalomania may cause us to believe that fate and persons owe us special considerations, and thus, not getting it, we will constantly feel abused. But viewing things as they are, there should be no room left in the mind for feeling hurt. If the criticism or slight or other treatment is merited and deserved, instead of shrinking and whimpering about it, we should take our punishment stalwartly.

When we come to recognize, through a study of astrology that the circumstances of our lives are attracted to us because of the activity of thought-cells within our finer forms, and from astrological signatures (Course 2) that they are such as at the time we need for education, we are not apt to believe that either fate or people impose upon us without adequate cause. This cause lies within ourselves; and we should, instead of complaining at the injustices of life, and thus perpetuating the discord that attracts injustices, spend our energy altering ourselves (Course 9) so that better fortune will be attracted.

Furthermore, close observation of those persons who continually whine about being mistreated by others, and those who constantly complain of their hard lives, reveals, as a rule, that considering their traits of character as they impress others, they cause others to mistreat them to the extent they are mistreated, or have developed a martyr complex in which they would not be happy unless they could show cause for complaint. And as for their hard condition in life, it would be no harder than that of others if they would work constructively to change it, rather than bewailing their fate.

I could here also mention anger, despondency, discouragement and a number of other disagreeable emotions. But the same method of treatment may be applied to all of these, as to those types of disintegrative thoughts, feelings, and emotions already considered. If attention to their objects is not obligatory, they should be crowded out by pleasant thoughts. But if they demand attention, the energies should be so concentrated on finding and carrying out the best course of action that there is no room for anything disagreeable.

#### Proper Nervous Tension Is Important

-Aside from what is disagreeable and what is pleasant, our habitual mood may be lax and negative, or high-strung and spirited. If the nervous tension in which we hold ourselves is too low, we are too greatly influenced by our environment, take on too many conditions, and besides being too greatly influenced in thought and action, the stimuli thus received makes us weary. Under such circumstances our day's work becomes a great effort, and the last hours of it drag slowly. Too much negativeness, too much relaxation of the nervous system, makes small tasks appear large.

On the other hand, if the nervous tension is too high, if the mental reactions are too forceful, there is plenty of energy to start the day, but it is quickly consumed, leaving none for the balance of the day. A too positive attitude toward environment, too much enthusiasm exhibited, uses up the energy and leaves one nervously exhausted.

Somewhere between these two extremes is a mood suitable to each person. It can be learned only by experiment, watching the effect of different tensions. Instead of feeling listless, a person, unless he has decided to relax for rest, should at all times feel just enough tension in his nervous system to make him aware that he is putting conscious and volitional energy into what he is doing. Such physical and mental attitude actually increases his energy through generating electrical energies of proper frequency by his nervous system. This is the energy that the yogi uses in his magical feats; but which may be generated by the simple means suggested in sufficient quantities to meet successfully the demands of daily life. The slight tension should be felt in every part of the body; but just how great or how little, must be learned by each person for himself.

I have now, at some length, discussed the general methods by which unpleasant thoughts, feelings and emotions may be made to give place to pleasant or constructive thoughts, feelings and emotions. First, a method was proposed by which it might be remembered on each occasion that unpleasant thoughts are not to be entertained under any circumstances. It was then shown how disagreeable thoughts may be put to flight by the use of pleasant thoughts and images. But as some disagreeable situations must receive attention, it was shown that these should be met in a different manner, by concentrating the attention on what should be done, rather than on that which is disagreeable.

For each type of thought, it is true, there is a specific thought antidote. And for each type of disagreeable event, there is also a specific thought treatment. These details are given in Course 9. But for the purpose of tuning in on the completely constructive life, the methods outlined in this lesson are adequate. It only remains, therefore, now that the relation of events to the individual as arousing constructive energies has been defined, to indicate the relation of each of these efforts to the whole.

Not only should all thoughts, feelings and emotions be pleasant, but every action should be considered in the manner in which it affects universal society. Each proposition that arises should be analyzed to see if, in the long run, it is beneficial to others. Every now and then the details of the everyday actions also should come under scrutiny to see if they are constructive in the larger sense. When the actions of the individual are directed to work that assists the Divine Plan of progression, and his thoughts, actions and feelings are habitually pleasant, he has entered into the completely constructive life. \*\*



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# Archiving Project Needs Copies of Old Quarterly's

If you have any of the following Quarterly's, please photocopy them and send the copies to headquarters. Any expenses you incur will be reimbursed.

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<u>Volume 47</u>, #<u>1</u>,4

"Thanks" to Barbara Kniffen for her continuing work on this project to preserve the CofL's archives. And "Thank You" to those who have sent copies from their CofL libraries. We now have the Volumes and numbers that are underlined and in bold type. Keep up the good work!



# New Logo

Seems quite a stir has been created within the ranks of the CofL with this new logo. Here's the story:

We have adopted the new logo (the one you see above which is now on all our stationary) because it presents a bright, cheery face to the public. The new logo is a stylized version of the Egyptian hieroglyph "Akhet" (horizon of the rising Sun). Outside of Amarna, the city built by Pharaoh Akhenaten, the Akhet symbol was carved at the junction of two hills where the Sun rose at a certain time of the year. The new logo is meant to be an attractive gateway to the wonders in store for those who look deeper. It is NOT meant to replace the BofL emblem that we all love so much. The seal and emblem of the Brotherhood of Light is the official trademark of The Brotherhood of Light Lessons, is protected by trademark, and represents the guiding principles of our organization. It's meaning for those who have studied it is unmistakably important....however, it is often misunderstood by the "uninitiated"!  $\ll$ 

# www.light.org



"And now abideth..."

# er

# A Profile of Reverend Doctor Russ Durocher

# Introduction by Wm. H. Jeffrey

Some people do not feel awkward talking about themselves. If we encounter such a person, we may find they are not really talking about themselves, but about their work. They are sharing what they love. If, during such an encounter with such a person, we listen carefully, we may learn how a person sounds when they have found their cosmic work, and perhaps that person's fire may ignite our desire to find our work. As a further treat, we will have the opportunity to learn how another sincere and dedicated human being sees and lives life.

When I asked "Dr. Russ" for information about himself for this profile, he offered not a list of credits, but a teaching which exemplifies what he is. To the extent that one comprehends what he has written, that is the extent one will see the author. Because of what Dr. Russ wrote, I felt it appropriate to present it to the reader as he did to me.

One comment that may help gain even more from this profile is that there are several functions of high ritual magic: The first is to provide a framework and discipline for one's spiritual practice. The second is to produce results-to bring into manifestation what one desires. The third is to provide a common symbolic language that the conscious and unconscious minds can share and use to communicate. The fourth is to generally raise the vibratory frequency of the soul/subconscious by intentionally and regularly exposing it to high ideas and high ideals. The fifth is to bypass the censor function of the conscious mind, thus allowing ideas to be communicated undistorted between the conscious and unconscious minds. The sixth is to facilitate communication between the conscious and unconscious minds even when one is not engaged in the ritual. The seventh is to provide a common spiritual practice that can be the basis for a community's work. The eighth, which is not obvious to a casual observer, is that rituals such as Dr. Russ uses, present over time a complete initiatic path which becomes impressed deeply on the soul/subconscious' of the participants.

From this point in the profile, except for the last paragraph, Dr. Russ speaks for himself (his work).

"I joined the Church of Light in 1981 after much independent occult and astrological study. After the initial neophyte level of involvement (conventions, correspondence with other members, etc.), it was clear to me that my proper role was (and is) a "low-profile" one—consisting of prospering the CofL with financial gifts and quietly bringing people drawn to my work into contact with Hermetic ideas.

"My background is clergy-training in the Anglo-Catholic (High Episcopal) Tradition. After proceeding even further with study (CofL and other schools) I chose to leave the mainstream church to pursue an independent priesthood/ministry in the Gnostic/High Ceremonial Magic Tradition, coupled with a very active teaching ministry emphatically oriented toward the life-changing value of the Hermetic System of Astrology (interestingly, back in 1982 at the East Coast CofL convention in Albany, Allan Curthoys, while looking at my chart, told me that my work would be ceremonial magic; of course, it already had been during my time in the mainstream church). A particular specialty of focus is assisting students in the use of Jupiter energies to understand and successfully demonstrate true and lasting prosperity, not only in 2nd House affairs, but in all departments of life — in other words, Spiritual, Mental, Personal and Cosmic Alchemy.

"Obviously, Course XVIII: "Imponderable Forces" is also quite important in my work, especially Serials 185 and 187; along with the Angelic references in Courses II, III, IV, VII, XVIII, XIX, and particularly XX, as well as Burgoyne's writings. "It's my personal feeling that one of the things really lacking in so much of today's metaphysical/occult work is authentic, enriching, well-understood and well- performed ritual. I have found repeatedly that affirmations and other mental alchemy techniques work so much more profoundly and fully when coupled with the illustrative drama of sense-involving ceremonial — and there is no more highly evolved and refined expression of this high ceremonial/magical approach than the stately and intricate rituals of the historic Christian Church (now largely abandoned in the unconscious attempt of "churchianity" to catch up to the Age of Aquarius). I hasten to add that this expression and intent can only be apparent when the mind is freed from the narrowness of orthodox dogma and blind belief, so that the traditional ritual is released from these shackles (and domination by the dogmatic members on the inner plane who still hold to the narrow beliefs) and able to soar and express the high vibratory levels of Gnostic/Hermetic understanding (in this, I am in concurrence with Zain's ideas expressed in Course XVIII). However, I venture much further than Zain, in that I believe these Ceremonial Rites must be rediscovered and experienced as the Soul-Initiation Mystery Dramas they were designed to be, rather than as an expression of the decaying dogmas of "western priestcraft" holding blind believers in bondage to maintaining their clergy's "special privilege."

"From this Soul-Initiation standpoint, Jesus of Nazareth is transformed from the vicariously atoning "Savior of the World" into the Hero of the Initiatic Alchemical Mystery Drama — the example of the high dominant vibratory rate toward which all on the Path of Unfoldment are striving. In other words, the Christ (Divine) Consciousness, expressed through the Nazarene is representative of the potential for us all. Jesus becomes the representation of each of us in our personal alchemical journey.

"The Angels, and the Archangels in particular, become quite significant as well. They represent the various aspects of transmutation necessary in our personal consciousness for this process of personal alchemicalization. The Archangels of the Four Seasonal Quadrants play the major roles: Michael, the Archangel of Fire and Ruler of the Autumn Quarter, who offers us the Sword of Truth (a bit of "C.C. Zain" i.e. "A Sword of Light"); Raphael, the Archangel of Air and Ruler of the Winter Quarter, who offers us the power of healing; Gabriel, the Archangel of Water and Ruler of the Spring Quarter (Easter, Resurrection), who offers us the means of discovering our own strength to fulfill our life's mission (cosmic work); and Uriel, the Archangel of Earth, Ruler of the Summer Quarter, who guides us to the full appreciation of the love and beauty of Creation (expressed in the Ritual Mystery Drama in symbolic form, as well as in Nature Herself).

"The Gnostic "Christian" understanding (as opposed to the orthodoxy established for political purposes by the Roman Emperor Constantine, and destined to become the prevailing form) always maintained total agreement with Hermetic ideas and understood the Nazarene as the symbol of the Master Initiator/Hierophant/Teacher, contact with whom can only be established on the inner planes through elevation of the personal vibratory rate. Jesus himself said, "It is the Father within me, not I, who doeth the works." And -"The works I do, you will do also, and greater works than these will you do." Properly understood, these statements, cloaked in Piscean Age poetry and symbology, are speaking across oceans of time to the entire human race as it enters the Aquarian Age. The early Gnostics always understood the Nazarene's message to be one of personal initiation into higher consciousness, and their suppressed scriptures (lost for 1700 years and rediscovered in Nag Hammadi, Egypt in the 1940s) substantiate this to an extraordinary degree.

"Therefore, the Eucharist (from the Greek: "thanksgiving") is celebrated here in the High Ceremonial style: in colored vestments (derived from planetary vibrations), with processions, chants, incense, candles, icons (which are really a form of Tarot Arcana), bells, genuflections, elevations, consecrated bread and wine, etc., but free of dogma and within the context of the Gnostic, Hermetic awareness and understanding. Each Service concludes with the invocation of the Archangels for healing and upliftment of consciousness. Participants are taught that they are enacting their own personal alchemical drama, offering their personal subconsciousness a vivid symbolic "treatment" of great and profound impact and pronounced benefit in their personal unfoldment and successful demonstration of greater happiness, usefulness and spirituality.

"All of this is perhaps more "Golden Dawn" in approach and tone, than strictly BofL, but certainly free of the sojourns into the "grey areas" which were so attractive to certain members of that peculiar organization.

"Finally, in addition to all of this activity, I maintain a world-wide counseling/consulting service, helping clients with Hermetic Horoscope Readings and related tools. Much of my Horoscope Reading is done on audio cassette tapes and mailed out to clients in many places. I also do quite a bit of telephone counseling. (Here the specialty often is business, financial, career, prosperity-related.)"

We are happy to receive names for inclusion in the Services. You may mail your requests to: Universal Life Fellowship, P.O. Box 86850, Phoenix, AZ 85080-6850, AND/OR EMAIL: RDuroc8707@aol.com

Life, Light, Love, "Russ+"Rev. Dr. Russ Durocher, Ph.D., D.D. Gnostic Priest, Teacher, Hermetic Astrologer

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal....And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." King James Bible, 1 Corinthians 13.\*\*



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# From the Archives

# Astro-Tarot Links



# Carol A. Peel

Many astrological students today are unaware of how valuable a bridge the tarot can be in gaining a deeper understanding of astrology. On the other hand, the tarot is based primarily on astrological correspondences, so the better an individual comprehends astrology, the more completely he will understand the tarot.

Symbolically, astrology and the tarot represent the Two Keys, which, when properly understood and applied, unlock all the mysteries of life. The Golden Key represents astrology, and is masculine and positive in action, while the Silver Key represents the tarot, and is feminine and passive in its action.

C. C. Zain has an enlightening paragraph describing the relationship between the Two Keys, which I would like to quote from Course II, Serial #2: "In fact, the tarot bears the same relation to astrology that the Moon bears to the Sun, and even as the Sun illuminates the day, so does astrology shed its radiance upon the more evident truths of occultism. But those deeper and more recondite mysteries remaining in the shadow cast by objective existence would forever remain in the dark even as at night nothing is seen until the Moon has risen, were it not for the soft radiance of the silver key. It is true, the moon shines by borrowed light; yet we are grateful for her rays. Just so the tarot borrows her significance from her heavenly spouse, astrology; yet she sheds an ever welcome illumination upon our darkest mental paths.

To briefly show you how closely the tarot corresponds to astrology, you will note that the 22 Major Arcana of the Tarot bear an exact correspondence to one of the 12 zodiacal signs or 10 planets, the 40 numbered Minor Arcana bear a strict relationship to the 36 decanates and four seasons of the sun's annual cycle. The 16 members of the Tarot Court accurately describe the 12 mundane mansions and the elemental ruler of each of the 4 quadrants.

So from this we discover there is a close correspondence between astrology and the tarot. But a mere knowledge that such a correlation between the two actually exists is not enough. Delving further into the subject, the important factor to explore is how this information can be made most useful.

There is no limit to the many various ways in which the tarot can be an enlightening tool to astrology and

vice-versa. At this time I would like to briefly correlate some of these avenues of correspondence.

Any scientific astrologer works from a foundation of established facts. But often-times in considering the influence of a certain aspect, there are many possible channels of its expression. In order to define its effect in more specific terms, the astrologer would need assistance from another source.

At a time such as this, Extra-Sensory Perception would be invaluable to the astrologer, and this is something the tarot helps develop. In fact, any facet of astrology is greatly assisted by ESP, providing the astrologer always checks his impressions against the scientific equivalents established in astrological research findings.

Now the question is, "How can the tarot help develop ESP?" The answer to this question is simple if you understand the universal law of correspondence. The tarot cards, through their universal symbols, are designed, among other things, to assist in extending the consciousness and focusing it on the information desired. Since ESP is a process concerned with bringing up to the region of objective consciousness that which resides in the unconscious mind, there must be a line of association. The symbols on the tarot cards are one of the most effective ways to form the associations that enable what was perceived through ESP to be recognized by objective consciousness. In fact, the tarot is considered the one standard text-book on the meaning of universal symbols.

In addition, the tarot offers a wide variety of spreads, providing the astrologer with a further way to check his accuracy. These tarot card spreads can be extremely helpful when the astrologer is still in doubt after a thorough application of astrology and ESP. For instance, if it is still not clear as to what direction a certain progressed aspect is most likely to take, a yes or no tarot spread could be of great assistance. Or if there is a desire to know whether or not it would be wise to consciously direct these energies toward a given project, a tarot spread can often be most informative.

This information may be of interest to those individuals who have made a study of the occult sciences. But the ordinary layman probably has many questions in his mind as to how an individual could possibly place so much reliance on such things as "cards" or "Stars," and further, to use them as a guide to future success and happiness. In attempting to explain this phenomenon, we would have to trace back in time to the days of the ancient magi, for it was they who specialized, generation after generation, for thousands of years in finding the relation ship of heavenly bodies to things on earth, and in gaining information concerning the soul of man. These men of ancient times devoted most of their lives seeking out the correspondences between man and the universe.

The information was gained and checked, and checked again, for accuracy by many diversified methods, until they were finally convinced they had found a spiritual treasure. By means of correspondence, they linked their spiritual findings to astrology, eventually, tracing such evidence to the constellations in the sky. Further, they correlated a number with each constellation so that spiritual concepts might be combined and handled mathematically.

And, so the tarot cards came into existence. The symbols found by the magi were engraved on plates. And each plate contained, in the language of universal symbolism, the explanation of some important spiritual fact. This, then, gave us the basis for an esoteric interpretation of spiritual truths, associated with some planet or zodiacal sign with its corresponding numerical significance.

Unlike most astrologers today, the ancient magi considered astrology a science of the soul; revealing the nature of the soul; the conditions the soul would be subjected to in the future; and a key to all spiritual possibilities. This is the esoteric side of astrology as opposed to exoteric astrology, which applies only to the physical affairs of life. To the ancients, esoteric astrology was far more valuable than a mere character analysis or a means of predicting events such as in exoteric astrology.

By properly combining the vast amount of knowledge contained in the tarot with astrological principles, the esoteric significance of astrology can be perceived. One informative way of combining the tarot and astrology, is to place each of the Major Arcana by its corresponding astrological sign or planet on the position it occupies in the natal chart. The vast amount of information associated with each Major Arcana can then be applied to the houses in the chart, where these influences fall, and open up many new vistas in comprehending the chart.

Another valuable astro-tarot combination is to make a thorough study of the arcanum corresponding to the Dominant Planet in a given horoscope. Since the Dominant Planet is considered the most influential planet in the chart, and thus predominantly marks the native's personality, much can be gleaned by studying this arcana carefully.

As an example of how enlightening this can be, let's refer to the chart of an individual who has a dominant Uranus, located in the 7th house and closely opposing the Ascendant (personality). The first essential is to analyze the astrological potential. Since Uranus is an upper-octave planet and governs the nervous system, we know this individual would be very high-strung. The tendency toward nervousness and sensitivity is further emphasized by the direct link to his Ascendant (personality). The Uranus stamp marks his personality with individualistic, rebellious and unconventional forms of conduct. Therefore, anything that is off-beat appeals to him and, more often than not, his love of the unusual leads him into situations that create disruption in his life.

Uranus frequently coincides with sudden changes, usually involving a human agency. Prominent Uranus energies map a tendency to attract people who sometimes gain too great a control over the life through hypnotic effect, mental influence or even through misplaced confidence, so this is an area that should be approached with caution. In the chart I am referring to, Uranus is located in the 7th house (other people) indicating a stronger predisposition toward difficulties with people.

The prominence of Uranus in this chart indicates there are certain lessons, corresponding to its influence, to be learned. An astrological analysis alone would not tell the whole story. So let's refer to the admonition and initiation presented in the description of Arcanum X – the Uranus Tarot Card, called The Wheel, and see what esoteric significance can be gained.

The admonition quote taken from C. C. Zain's The Sacred Tarot is as follows: "Remember, then, son of earth, that for power thou must will, that is, will strongly; thou must dare, and to dare with success thou shouldst know how to be silent until the moment of action. If the Wheel should appear in the prophetic signs of thy horoscope, know that to possess the Key of Power you must learn to will persistently only for what is good and true. And in order to maintain thyself upon the heights of life, shouldst thou reach them, thou must have learned how to sound with a look, and without dizziness, the vastest depths."

The above admonition provides a deep insight regarding the inner, esoteric meaning of Uranus. In analyzing it, we find several helpful hints in learning how to make the most of Uranus energies, and how to prevent certain pitfalls that might otherwise occur if its energies were not directed into constructive channels.

So we learn that the individual who possesses a dominant Uranus should encourage the development of an invincible will and learn how to be silent. He should make it a practice to analyze carefully the motivations behind his actions and learn to see beyond the cloak of appearances.

Building these habits will aid such a person, tremendously, in his associations with people. For if he develops a strong will and learns how to be silent until constructive action has been taken, he will be immensely rewarded by eliminating much of the negative influence people will try to exert on his life. And if he makes it a point to think about why he is taking a certain action, rather than doing it spontaneously and impulsively, he will be more than compensated by finding a life that is richer and fuller in every way.

A further guide to the esoteric significance of Uranus is explained in the following quote by C. C. Zain, Course VI (Pg. 220, Initiation, Arcanum X): "As the soul progresses up the spiral ascending way of attainment, it gradually refines its organism to the end of living a richer life. On both planes, however, there is always the impact of environment; and some of the conditions contacted are sure to be discordant. If, therefore, the life-form occupied by the soul becomes sensitive without at the same time developing the power of control there may be actual danger. No matter how sensitive it becomes, so long as the soul has the power to direct the thoughts and attention, no other entity can gain control of the organism or do it injury from the inner-plane. But if sensitiveness becomes greater than the power of control, other entities or discordant conditions are able to hold the attention and can cause the individual to suffer."

"Yet as abilities are developed only through the effort to overcome such obstacles as are shown by progressed afflictions in the birth chart, at the state of progress here considered, astrological afflictions are viewed as opportunities to develop ability, and astrological harmonies are viewed as opportunities to use the abilities thus developed in assisting universal progression."

From the foregoing we again find the development of certain qualities essential in order to bring: out the best side of Uranus. We learn that a sensitive nature goes hand in hand with Uranus and can be useful only if proper control is exerted. But if an individual is so sensitive that he becomes a vehicle of the will of other people, he will find it difficult to make the progress in life he is seeking. And if he learns to view his problems, mapped by the afflictions in his chart, as wonderful opportunities for building a stronger character, he will ultimately be able to contribute more to society as a whole and achieve a greater personal happiness.

So as you can see, the links between astrology and the tarot are infinite. In my brief exploration of their correspondence, I have provided only a springboard in the hope that you will make a serious study of their inseparable correspondence. The combination of astrology and the tarot together is a subject all its own. In fact, by combining the two you may even discover the missing link needed in your own personal unfoldment, that will open doors you never dreamed possible.

Church of Light Quarterly, Volume 43, January 1968 #1 🛩

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# Convention 2000 Dramatis Personae

-Some of the players captured on camera-







Top row from left: Connie Collier, Blanchard Nash, Dorothy Fast Wissler Row 2: Donald Baker, A friend, Barbara Baker, Row 3: Bill Jeffrey, Wanda Richardson, Patrick Ramsey & Doris Chase Doane Row 4: Angelo Chirban, Raul Montoya Row 5 Lynne Palmer & Vicki Brewer, Kimberly (Ögn) Magnusson & Gregory Taylor





























Top row from left :Sandra Mayo & Alicia Lopez Saucedo, Joy Ogden; the timid, lethargic Carrothers brothers, Dave & Steve. Row 2: Tom Bartlett, Darby Rowe Bartlett (There are two people in the photo--can you find them?). Row 3: Barbara Carrothers, Bob Zoller, Cheryl Cannou. Row 4: Paul Brewer, Roland Wissler & Shirley Hall (aspiring actress), Bob Hall. Row 5: Misty Day, Charlie Gourley, Radine Ramsey







# Let's Play

# Can we use the Golden & Silver Key to Predict the Outcome of an Election?

Bill Jeffrey, The Playful Hermetician invites us to join him in some fun. After examining the two major play-

ers birth charts and then throwing a tarot spread he decided

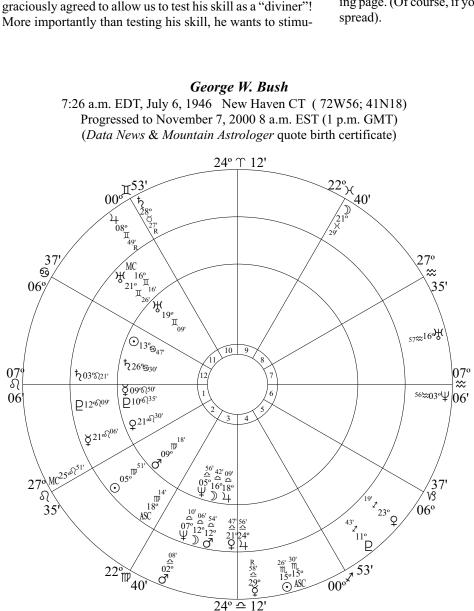
that he now knows who will win the US presidential elec-

tion. He won't tell us the answer but we are "demanding"

that he record his answer and place in the CofL safe where

we will hold it until after the election on Nov. 7th. He has

CofL Staff Members Wanting to Have Some Fun!



late you into a practical application of the Gold & Silver Keys. You are invited to play along by sending your "guesstimate" with explanations of how you arrived at your decisions, we will print them in the next Quarterly!

Check out the two birth charts (with major & transit progressions) and then look at Bill's tarot spread on the following page. (Of course, if you wish, you may throw your own

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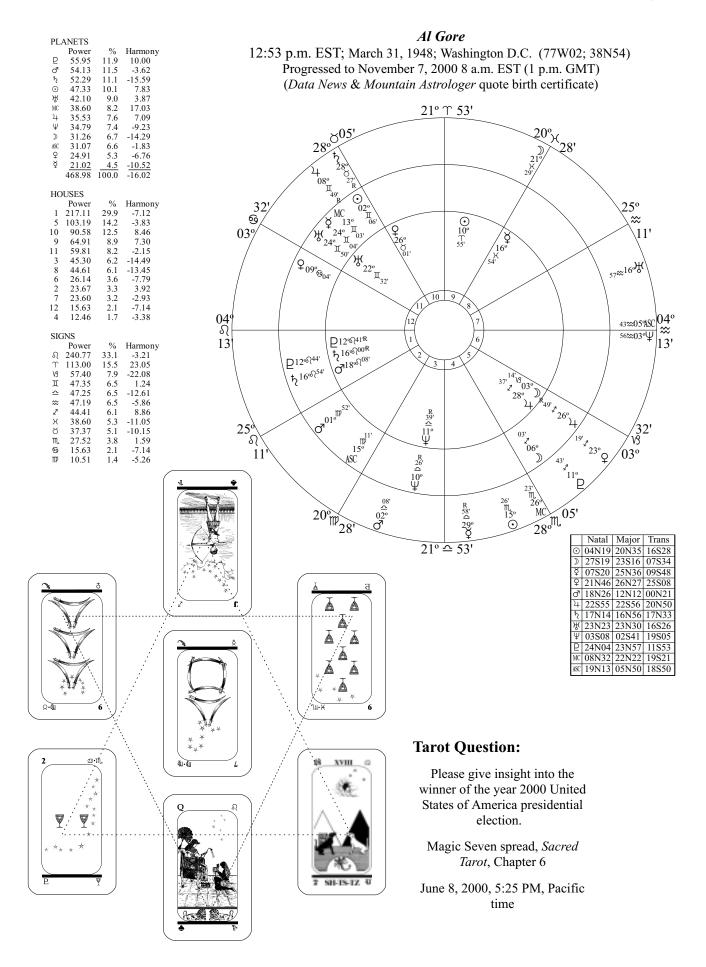
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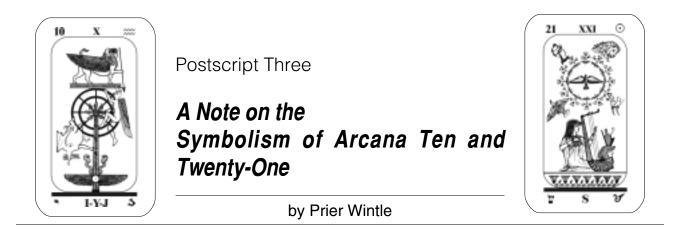
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(Postscript 3 for the article, *Attributes to the Egyptian Tarot*, published in a four-part series in the *Quarterly* in 1998 and 1999)

here are important differences in the design of Tarot card 21 in the Egyptian pack from how it appears in every other well-known set. At the immediately obvious level, instead of showing a nude or only symbolically veiled young girl in the center of a wreath, it shows her at the foot of the card, fully clothed in white, playing a three-stringed harp, with the wreath above her. The wreath, moreover, is circular, whereas in most other packs it is oval. And there is also another difference not so often noticed which is really more important, for those so far mentioned do not by themselves introduce anything fundamentally diverse into the meaning of the Trump. This, however, hints at an alchemical teaching which all the other packs miss. I refer to the fact that in the Egyptian pack the order of the four Beasts placed round the circumference of the wreath does not correspond to the Zodiacal order of the four fixed signs: Aquarius, Scorpio, Leo, and Taurus. Instead, the order, proceeding in clockwise direction round the wreath from the top left-hand corner of the card, is:

- 1. The Man (Aquarius, an Air Sign)
- 2. The Lion (Leo, a Fire Sign)
- 3. The Bull (Taurus, an Earth Sign)
- 4. The Phoenix or Eagle (Scorpio, a Water Sign).

Those who regard the Egyptian pack as a late concoction pretending to antiquity usually regard this order as another evidence of faulty symbolism, and point to the "correct" zodiacal order followed in the Marseilles pack and the Waite and other packs of the Golden Dawn connection. It is regarded as another piece of nonsense comparable to the absurd idea that the version of the pack known as the Comte de Saint Germaine set has anything to do with the legendary adept of that name. Yet, strangely enough, understanding of the true significance of this anomalous order inclines one to take a different view of the possibility that the great Rosicrucian and alchemical Master had some hand in designing the pack. For what it relates to is the Qabalistic order of the Elements when these are placed upon the Tree of Life.

There is a well-known Oabalistic ritual known as the Ritual of the Qabalistic Cross in which the four Elements are named, in association with the four archangels who rule them, in the following order as one faces Eastwards: - Before me Raphael, (Air), Behind me Gabriel, (Water), on my right hand Michael (Fire), and on my left hand Auriel, (Earth). I have already referred briefly to this ritual in the body of this article during my discussion of the Cube of Space described in the Sepher Yetzirah, and shown that the placing of the planets on the Cube suggests strongly that in its original form the Cross was not confined to the horizontal plane, as it is usually conceived today. The clue to it may be found in the Qabalistic alchemical treatise known as the Aesch Metzareph (Purifying Fire) in which the three most famous and basic alchemical substances, Mercury, Sulphur and Salt, corresponding respectively to Air, Fire and Earth, are attributed to the three Supernals of the Tree of Life in the order: Mercury Kether, Sulphur Chokmah and Salt Binah. Now it is a well-known convention in connection with occult diagrams of an illuminatory or Wisdom-explanatory nature that when one looks into the picture (i.e. towards the light) one is looking symbolically Eastwards, (whence comes the dawning light). Therefore, as one looks directly at the Tree of Life one sees Kether (Air) before one, (and a little above), Chokmah (Fire) on one's right hand, and Binah (Earth) on one's left. Eliphas Levi, who was almost certainly an initiate of the same Rosicrucian tradition as the Comte de Saint Germaine, decided to illustrate this position explicitly, in overt alchemical symbolism, in his Restored design for card ten of the Tarot, The Wheel of Fortune, the only other card of the series besides card 21 which depicts the circle of manifestation. What he drew is illustrated in his book Ate Magical Ritual of the Sanctum Regnum. A simple wheel, without surrounding figures, is all that is shown. At the top of it is the Astrological symbol for Mercury, at the right hand that for Sulphur, on the left Salt, and at the foot the alchemical symbol for dissolution, which is identical with the astrological symbol for Aquarius.

Though astrologically an Air sign, Aquarius is also the Water bearer, and it is to water as the occult element capable of dissolving all others that it refers here. For we, passing our existence in the world of manifestation, this vale of tears, which is symbolized on the Tree of Life by the planes of the Sephiroth below the level of the three Supernals, do so in that plastic, flowing, reflecting medium which the adepts call their Water, in which a negative image of the original Divine positive ideation is caught and held. (Water was the first mirror).

But this, though it is the origin of the traditional assignment of the Elements to the four quadrants, (i.e. when Air and Water are swung from Above and Below to Before and Behind, East and West), is not the whole story. For Binah, though it corresponds to Salt and Earth at the level of the Supernals, (and correctly so since it is the root of the limiting principle of Form), is also the root of Water, since all manifestation proceeds from it, in the planes below. Thus while Kether is at the head of the pillar of Air, and Chokmah at the head of that of Fire, Binah is said to be at the head of the pillar not of Earth but of Water. Indeed one of her titles is The Great Salt Sea. And at all levels of the Tree below the Supernals, even up to Binah herself when seen from below, whenever Air is Eastwards before and above one then Fire is on one's right hand and Water on one's left, with Earth behind and below (Malkuth)<sub>1</sub> It is therefore precisely this which Card 21, The World, illustrates (i.e. The World as it manifests, no matter how nearly ideally, so long as it is below the level of the Supernals). Projected once again onto the horizontal plane alone, when one faces Air (The Man), the Bull (Earth) is behind one, the Lion (Fire) is on one's right and the Eagle (Water) on one's left. (The well-known folk warning about mixing fire and water is of course a reference to the dangers in the juxtaposition of these alchemical opposites). The Egyptian card 10 as we have it does not show this alchemical symbolism, and Levi obviously envisaged an improved pack in which this card should show the position at the Supernal level while card 21 continued to show it as we experience it below that level.

Note 1 We in Malkuth look towards the dawning of the interior Sun (Tiphareth) and the illumination which lies behind it (Kether). ( i.e., in the Northern hemisphere, when this tradition originates.)

Neither the Qabalistic Cross order nor that of Egyptian Card 21 can be made to square with the zodiacal order of the fixed Signs, and those responsible for the Golden Dawn packs, not having the key to what was being referred to in this detail of the true esoteric symbolism, preferred the version of the exoteric Marseilles Gypsy pack where the zodiacal order has crept in, probably as a corruption. They made confusion much worse confounded however, when, vaguely sensing a connection between cards 10 and 21, they added the figures of the 4 living creatures as they appear in Card 21, in their amended zodiacal order, to the corners of card 10, for the center of which they had adopted Levis wheel with alchemical symbolism. Thus the Waite - Paul Foster Case - Golden Dawn designs for card 10 show correct but not understood alchemical symbolism relating to the 4 quarters in its center and a conflicting order in the four corners which follows the correct zodiacal order but is devoid of alchemical meaning. And in their Card 21 the alchemical order which was to balance that of card 10 has now of course also been completely lost. Indeed it is easy to see they did not suspect it, for the bird, which in the Egyptian pack is clearly a phoenix, a symbol pregnant with meaning in the alchemical tradition, appears merely as the Eagle, the conventional symbol of Scorpio and nothing else. Altogether a sad example of bumbling.

And now, for those who may object that it is still illogical to depict on a Tarot card, an to enact in a Qabalistic ritual, an order of quadrants which bears no relation to Astrological (and therefore presumably astronomical) realities, let me conclude by pointing out that it is the true Astrological tradition associated with the 4 quadrants, as epitomized in the qualities associated with the four phases of the Moon, which is actually in full agreement with the order of the Qabalistic cross. The four Lunar phases are of successively lessening strength, beginning with the first (New Moon) which is positive-positive, the second positive-negative, the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Full Moon) negative-positive, and the 4<sup>th</sup> negative-negative. In the first phase, although the Moon is not visible until sunset, when it sets just after the Sun, it actually rises with or just after the Sun. Thus in this phase it is associated with the East. In its next phase it rises at midday, when the Sun is at its hottest in the South. I. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase it rises at Sunset and is at its own greatest apparent strength, being Full and visible for the whole night. Hence the attribution of the positive aspect of the negative (decreasing) half of the Moon's course to this quarter and the assignment of Gabriel, archangel of the Moon herself, to the sunset or Western quadrant. Finally, the Moon rises at Midnight or after during her last phase when she is rapidly fading towards the few days when she will be invisible before the next New, and at Midnight the Sun has also sunk in to the North quarter, that of Earth and the grave.

(This completes Prier Wintle's monograph. Thank you, Radine Ramsey, for transcribing this work.)

**Note:** The following comment was received from member, Blanchard Nash. Many thanks Blanchard.

I just wanted you to know that I thoroughly enjoyed the Spring Quarterly and that I have read it over with great interest several times. I especially enjoyed the follow up article by Prier Wintle. However, I did find one tiny little problem. In the article, the mystery sephira on the middle pillar in the area of the great abyss is incorrectly called "Death". While this is probably just a typo, it should be noted for those who may not know that the actual designation of this sephira is Daath, or more usually Da'ath, and in English is generally referred to as Knowledge. This is such a small thing that it may well be overlooked by those in the know. To be sure, I who have studied much information on Kaballah over a number of years overlooked it for quite a few readings. This was indeed a fascinating and informative article and I am sure that you will want to see that this mistake is caught fairly quickly. Keep up the good work.

**Book Review** 



# The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership

# Steve Carrothers

The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership by Dr. John C. Maxwell is the answer to the question "If you were to take everything you've learned about leadership and boil it down to a short list, what would that be?"

Dr. Maxwell lectures to over ¼ million people each year. He has been a studying leadership for over 30 years, and is a successful leader himself. These 21 Laws are based on real world experiences and research, not on unproven theories.

The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership text is loaded with many entertaining stories that clearly get each laws point across. Leadership ability determines a person's level of effectiveness is illustrated with the story of McDonald's Hamburgers. The Law of Influence is explained using Princess Diana as an example. Dr. Maxwell uses a personal story when teaching the Law of E. F. Hutton, when the real leader speaks, people listen.

The good news is that you can learn these laws. The more you read and apply these laws in your life, the greater influence you will have. Influence others to contribute their utmost to universal welfare, to study the writing of C. C. Zain, to find their place in the divine plan. You can improve your leadership skills to be of greater service to others and effectively reach your goals.

Part of Dr. Maxwell's conclusion in *The 21 Irrefutable Laws* of *Leadership*: "Any endeavor you can undertake that involves other people will live or die depending on leadership. As you work to build your organization, remember this:

- $\odot$  Personnel determine the potential of the organization.
- ⊙ Relationships determine the morale of the organization
- ⊙ Structure determines the size of the organization.
- $\odot$  Vision determines the direction of the organization.
- $\odot$  Leadership determines the success of the organization.

*The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership* is only one of John C. Maxwell's many works on leadership. All of his books (and tape cassettes) are available through Barnes & Noble (1-800-The-Book) or on their Internet site at www.bn.com. The books are in print and should be available at most large bookstores.



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# The Religion of the Stars

# Stellarian Question Box



# Lloyd Matthiesen, Hermetician

**Q**. In the Hermetic system of names and numbers, should the given name or the family name, or both, be used? In Course VI, The Sacred Tarot, Zain uses the given name until he uses the Birth Path, where he uses both the given and family name.

**A**. There are two distinct ways names are used in the hermetic system: 1. a positive science of vibration, and 2. divination.

The first usage finds the astral vibratory rate of the name when spoken or thought of by someone in connection with an individual possessing the name. The vibratory note of this astral wave then reaches the individual and stimulates the zone of his astral body having the same vibratory rate, ruled by a specific planet or sign of the zodiac. The effect upon the individual can then be determined by analyzing the harmony or discord of that planet or sign in his chart of birth. This technique enables one to select a name having more fortunate results in his life.

The name selected for this purpose should be the name by which he is most commonly known. In most cases, this would be the given name only. It may be there is a nickname used, in which case that nickname should be the one considered.

It is a different matter using a name for divinatory purposes. In these instances the full name is commonly used. The Birth Path method is a form of divination, and therefore uses the full name as well as the birth date.

#### Questions from the past

1. (February 1961):

**Q**. I had been intrigued with the idea of reincarnation, and now I find the Church of Light does not teach it. The Brotherhood of Light lessons teach that there are various levels in the animal kingdom. Why cannot there also be different levels the human souls must pass through? I guess I will just remain neutral on the question until I get more convincing proof.

**A**. Reverend Edward Doane's response: It is true that in the mineral and other kingdoms that the soul passes through

successive levels, each higher on the scale. The point that most people miss is that the human stage is the top level in the animal kingdom and the point of departure for higher realms.

The scientific designation for the human is: Primate Mammal—Homo Sapiens. At the human level, energy is organized to such a degree—and potentials developed—that one incarnation is all that is needed in this species.

You are correct in not taking a definite stand until, through your own studies and experience, you have gained positive knowledge of the truth of the matter. In this way you will avoid getting opinions so firmly fixed that new evidence and new experiences cannot alter the mental outlook.

2. (February 1954):

**Q**. Does the Church of Light practice baptism? If so, do you believe in sprinkling or total immersion?

**A**. Reverend Edward Doane's response: We do not use baptism by water. If a person becomes converted to the Religion of the Stars, the baptism takes place within his or her soul.

3. (December 1946):

**Q**. The courses state that the polarity of a soul attracts and repels experiences. What precisely does "polarity" mean here? Do you have a dictionary of terms as used in the Hermetic philosophy?

**A**. "Polarity" as here used refers to the basic character vibratory (frequency) rates, as given to the Soul at its inception and as modified by later experiences. The Law of Affinity might well be called the Law of Resonances, or the Law of Sympathetic Vibratory Response.

We do not have a dictionary of terms, but we feel sure that as you progress with the studies of the lessons that you will find that most of them are so written that the definition is self-evident. That is, only one possible definition in the particular connotation. All words need consideration as applying to the particular frame of reference in which they are used.

The more we study a given method, the more we enter its particular vibration, thus making comprehension the easier.

4. (March 1955):

The following is my personal favorite. Lloyd M .:

**Q**. We are taught that all things have souls, even atoms. But what is the case in regards to man-made objects? Does my fountain pen have a soul? Perhaps the individual atoms have souls, but why do they not fly off into space? What keeps it together as a pen?

**A**. Astral energy is the binding force that holds all that we call physical together. The only tangibles in material physics are the electrons of various sorts: including what are

now called "neutrons," "negatrons," etc. The chief constituent of what we call physical substance is in anything detectable by our present physical method. On the contrary, the farther one goes into combining the electrons into what is called physical substance, the greater becomes the presence of astral energy (binding force), and the less, in relative proportion, becomes the apparent tangible or electron.

A fountain pen, as such, does not have a soul, but component atoms have intelligence.

We are sorry to tell the readers that this is Lloyd's last Stellarian Question Box. Lloyd has been having increasing difficulty with his eyesight and has found that writing places a great strain on this precious resource of vision. We hope to have a feature to fill this spot in the Quarterly, but we do not expect to fill Lloyd's place. Editorial staff. Set

# From the Archives

# Enigma and Variations on a Sphinxian Theme



#### Dr. Howard W. Polk, Hermetician

In all the world there is no greater mystery than that which surrounds the origin and purpose of the Great Sphinx of Egypt. However, "She has seen the mystery hid, Under Egypt's Pyramid;" for a tablet discovered in the last century indicates that the Sphinx was in existence at the time of Khufu, the builder of the Great Pyramid. For untold thousands of years, therefore, this enigmatic symbol, with a lion's body and a human head, has been the subject of countless speculations. So surely one more will not be amiss.

That this figure is an Astrological symbol few who have studied it will deny. But as to its precise place in the Zodiac there is some dissension. Some have said that it represents the cusp between the constellations Leo and Virgo, and that it is a monument to the time in history when the retrogressing equinox occupied this degree – possibly to the inundation of legendary Atlantis which, according to Plato, occurred at about this time. This speculation seems reasonable, but it has one serious drawback. The Human head of the Sphinx is masculine rather than feminine, for it had a beard, parts of which along with fragments of the Uraeus or figure of the sacred cobra on the headdress (symbol of spiritual wisdom), now reside in the British Museum in London. So the head must refer to the Man of the Zodiac, Aquarius, while the Lion's body is symbolical of the constellation Leo.

It is to be noted, however, that the head is that of the man rather than that of the lion, showing that the human must rule the animal; and according to the Egyptian's teachings it is the function of life, as a human, to develop what is known as self-consciousness. So the consciousness of man, then, is the predomination factor of this symbol.

Leo, the natural 5th House sign, symbolizes love, and Aquarius, the 11th sign, denotes wisdom. Love and wisdom related to each other as negative and positive, feminine and masculine, are the two poles of all existence, the two categories of every experience. The great repository, wherein is retained the gleanings of all these experiences of love and wisdom, is the Human Soul – or, in the terminology of the Egyptians, the Sphinx symbolizes Isis.

The Signs of the Zodiac naturally fall into four divisions or triplicities: Fire, Earth, Air, and Water. The 3 Fire Signs, Aries, Lee, and Sagittarius, give the qualities of enthusiasm and courage, and correspond, in man, to Spirit. The Earth Signs, Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorn, give patience and practicality, and signify the Physical Body. The Air Signs, Gemini, Libra, and Aquarius, give the attributes of change-ableness and intellectuality, and correspond to Mind. Finally, the Water Signs Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces, give sympathetic qualities and domesticity, and denote, in Man, Emotions and Passions.

The Zodiacal Signs also fall into three divisions or qualities: Movable, Fixed and Mutable. The 4 Movable signs, Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn, give the qualities of great activity and pioneer spirit, and correspond to things transient. The Fixed Signs, Taurus, Lee, Scorpio, and Aquarius, give stability and stubborn resistance, and denote things permanent. And the Mutable Signs, Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces, are adaptable, and represent qualities between those of the Movable and Fixed Signs.

There is a combining of these two major groupings, as there is one Movable-Fire Sign, Aries, one Fixed Fire Sign, Taurus, and one Mutable-Fire Sign,

Sagittarius; also one Movable-Earth Sign, Capricorn, one Fixed-Earth Sign, Taurus, and one Mutable-Earth Sign, Virgo, etc. In the study of the Sphinx, however, we are concerned only with the Fixed Signs: Fixed-Earth, Taurus; Fixed-Fire, Leo; Fixed-Water, Scorpio; and Fixed-Air Aquarius.

Because of the time required for the Sun to pass, through the Zodiacal Signs, a Sphinx composed of two or all four of these Zodiacal symbols indicates the passage of time; and as the Signs are Fixed, indicating permanency, and the image is carved in the timeless solid stone, the Sphinx, then, is a symbol of Eternity.

However, two of the Fixed Signs that are present in the four-fold figure of a Sphinx are conspicuous by their absence in the Egyptian Sphinx. Taurus or Fixed-Earth (physical body), and Scorpio or Fixed-Water (passions): both refer to physical things and are missing. Leo or Fixed-Fire (spirit), and Aquarius or Fixed-Air (mind) show, then, that this infinite time or eternity does not refer to the physical body or the gross emotions.

Thus, the Egyptian Sphinx, in its complete symbolism, speaks of the immortality of the Human Soul, and it points to the way. To the student of Astrological lore the Sphinx speaks most eloquently: "Man must develop to the highest possible extent the attributes of Love and Wisdom to the end that self-conscious immortality will be attained." (From Astrological Signatures, by C.C. Zain).

These two symbols also correspond to the two pillars that stand before the Masonic or King Solomon's Temple. Aquarius, or the head of the Man, corresponds to Jachin, and Leo, the body of the Lion, to Boaz. Hence the Sphinx symbolizes under these two emblems the duality of truth: the light and the dark, the good and the evil, the masculine and the feminine or every conceivable thing under the canopy of Heaven.

In the Egyptian initiation into the mysteries, the candidate began his awesome journey at the feet of this symbol. Thus the Sphinx represents the Tyler seeing that none pass to the higher realms but those who are duly qualified by possessing the qualities (or the passwords) of Love and Wisdom to a sufficient degree.

The Sphinx faces due East, and has greeted the rising Sun every morning for untold thousands of years. The Sphinx symbolizes Isis, or the feminine receptive principle in Nature. The Sun symbolizes Osiris, or the masculine spiritual principle. The union of the two results in evolution or gestation, which finally results in the birth of Mankind - Man, who possesses an immortal soul and the potentiality of developing and exercising God-like powers. So the Sphinx, like the Stonehenge in England, symbolizes the Immaculate Conception.

Thus at a time when human intelligence was supposed to be practically nil, the ingenious people residing along the Sacred Nile embodied in a symbolic monument, consisting of the representations of but two Zodiacal Constellations, the predominate factors of the sublime spiritual teachings handed down to them from a more remote past: the teachings that the Soul is immortal and capable of infinite progression; that Astrological energies are intensely real and influence the destiny of man; and that "Wisdom is the principle thing," and "Love is the fulfilling of the Law."

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Look for the Quarterly on the CofL web site at http://www.light.org. You may access the Quarterly at www. light.org/pdf and then double click on 2000 Summer. Although you can download a copy of the Quarterly for free, donations are appreciated and needed. To read the Quarterly from the Internet, you will need a copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader, version 3 or newer. You can download the Adobe Acrobat Reader free from Adobe Systems http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readermain.html

Printed editions of the Quarterly are mailed to those persons who have indicated a desire to receive the printed version by sending a contribution to the Quarterly Fund. Anyone wishing to receive a printed version may do so by completing the Quarterly Donation Form and returning to CofL.

## Building a Better World

Congratulations to Roger Baldwin and his coworkers for opening two new Brotherhood of Light centers in

# Membership Room

Fort Worth, Texas and in Columbus, Ohio.

For information about the new centers, you can contact Roger at 1(972)669-5683 (24hour phone); 1(614)486-6853(Columbus phone) or write to Roger at: 3801 E. 14 th St. #907, Plano, TX 75074 (Mailing address only.)

Thanks to Wanda Gibson Richardson for her coordinating the "Modern Mystics" section of Compuserve's New Age Living Forums. Wanda is publishing much material by and about C.C.Zain and the CofL on her forum. Wanda can be contacted via e-mail. Her address is 112020.3101@compuserve.com

# Thanks to:

Wanda Richardson, for the selling of the raffle tickets at the convention.

Patrick & Radine Ramsey for the photographing of the convention (Patrick on video and Radine on still photos.)

Shirley Hall, for the delightfully silly and effective idea of making all the attendees of the convention stars of the StarStruck video boutique.

Barbara Baker for her compassionate, appropriate, and prompt answering of members' letters.

Margarita Wodarczyk for taking computer classes to aid her in the translation of the BofL lessons into Spanish.

## Congratulations to:

Christina Herr, who is seeing her long-time magical desire become manifest as the jewelry she designs and produces is being featured in fine jewelry stores and boutiques in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Jewell Richman for winning the prize for being the oldest mother present at a mother-daughter dinner. The prize was symbolic of what mothers do--nurture. Jewell walked away with a beautiful potted plant to nurture.

#### Quotes:

"As above, so below...." *Thoth* "...And sideways." *Bill Jeffrey* 

"If I must be a fool, let me be God's fool." *Traditional* 

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"What you are seeking in your retreat, I see clearly in every road and alleyway." *Maghribi* 

#### \*\*\*\*

"With a time-rusted compass blade, Alladin and his lamp, Sits with utopian hermit monks Sidesaddle on the golden calf. And on their promises of Paradise, You will not hear a laugh, All except inside the gates of Eden." From "The Gates of Eden" *Robert Zimmerman* 

\*\*\*\*

"You've been told many times before, Messiahs pointed to the door, But no one had the guts to leave the temple."

Peter Townsend

# Two Paths Entwined On A Journey Of Light



Newlyweds Elias and Nancy Bernard. May the Legions of Light bless and protect them, and guide them as they experience life's precious school on this plane and on those to come. (Wedding ceremony performed by Rev. Paul Brewer.)

### Classes:

Longmont, Colorado

Donna Deatheridge is holding classes in astrology and various BofL courses. To be put in touch with Donna, please call or write International Headquarters.

Canberra AUSTRALIA

Hermetic Academy of Astrology; Julia Goldstein. Three year course work in Hermetic Astrology.

If you are conducting classes or study groups and wish to have it announced in the Quarterly, please let CofL HQ know. ChurchofLight@light.org.

# Mark your calendar...

## American Federation of Astrologers

July 9-13, 2000; Church of Light members who will be speaking are:

Marlene J. Anderson, Paul Brewer, Doris Chase Doane, Christopher Gibson, Lynne Palmer, Joan Titsworth and Dee Wynne.

Hotel Rio, Las Vegas, Nevada; AFA: 1(888)301-7630; Hotel Rio: 1(888)746-7482

# International Society of Astrological Research Conference:

# Oct. 4-9, 2000; Cutting Edge Skills for the 21st Century Professional

Features Astro All-star Cyber Challenge of Leading Astrological Software. The Church of Light will be represented at the conference. Hyatt Regency Alicante Hotel; Anaheim CA (just 4 blocks south of Disneyland)



# New Logo

Seems quite a stir has been created within the ranks of the CofL with this new logo.

Please see page 9 for the story.

# The New CofL Web Site

It debuted June 15th. Look for its story in the Fall issue of the Quarterly.

There is much information of which you will want to avail yourself!

Check out the *Founder's Page* in the "About Us" Room. It has lots of pictures and good stories!

Remember the *Discussion Forum* in the "**Membership Room**". If you have a question about the lessons put it out there and someone can answer!!!

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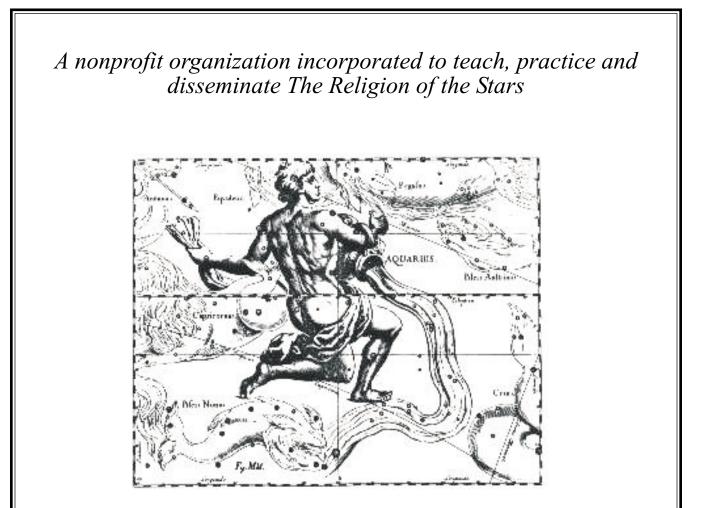
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And until we all learn the nature of our cycles and can intentionally work with them, we will not be free —at least on this or the next plane. Susan Zuber's book, *The Aquarian Goddess*, is about those cycles. Although written primarily for women, men go around and around and up and down, too. If you'd like ideas about identifying and using those cycles, you may want to claim a free copy of Susan's book. From now until the Winter Solstice, you will receive a free copy of *The Aquarian Goddess* with any order you make from the *Church of Light* catalog. When you place your order, please mention this offer. (If you'd like the book but do not wish to place an order for anything else, you may buy the book for \$5.00.



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The Religion of the Stars teaches that every person in the world should have Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear, Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Religion. And, to obtain these in proper measure, each must become familiar with the Facts of Astrology, the Facts of Extra-Sensory Perception, the Facts of Induced Emotion and the Facts of Directed Thinking. Rather than working to accumulate all that one can for himself or herself, each must learn to take pleasure in "Contributing Your Utmost to Universal Welfare."

The Church of Light was incorporated to teach, practice and disseminate *The Religion of the Stars*, as set forth in the 21 lessons covering each of the 3 branches of occult science, as written by C.C. Zain under the auspices of *The Brotherhood of Light*.