

January 2003 Celestial Timings

By Tina Mayerhafer

And now let us welcome the New Year, full of things that have never been. – *Rainer Maria Rilke*

You only live once – but if you work it right, once is enough. – *Joe E. Lewis*

New Year's Day. A fresh start. A new chapter in life waiting to be written. New questions to be asked, embraced, and loved. Answers to be discovered and then lived in this transformative year of delight and self-discovery. How often in the past have you turned away from all that is unresolved in your heart because you feared questioning? But what if you knew that a year from today you could be living the most creative, joyous, and fulfilling life you could imagine? What would it be? What changes would you make? How and where would you begin? Do you see why the questions are so important?

“Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves,” the German poet Rainer Maria Rilke urges us. “Do not now seek the answers which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them and the point is to live everything. Live the questions now.....”

The answers to your questions will come, but only after you know which ones are worth asking. Wait. Live your questions. Then ask. Become open to the changes that the answers will inevitably bring. This may take some time, but time is the New Year's bountiful blessing: three hundred sixty-five bright mornings and starlit evenings; fifty-two promising weeks; twelve transformative months full of beautiful possibilities; and four splendid seasons. A simply abundant year to be savored. – *Sarah Ban Breathnach, Simple Abundance*

Skywatch:

Planets visible in the morning sky – Mercury from 18th, Venus, Mars and Jupiter

Planets visible in the evening sky – Mercury to the 6th, and Saturn

Check websites like <http://skyandtelescope.com> for details on how to locate these planets.

Week of Jan 1 - 8. The Capricorn [New Moon](#) window begins Jan 1, is exact Jan 2, and ends Jan 3. Our direct visual experience of any Moon phase lasts for three days. Visually the Full Moon rises appearing very full the night before, the night of, and the night after the exact Full Moon. There is no visual experience of the New Moon because it is the dark of the Moon when the Moon is traveling with the Sun. There may be the smallest tiny crescent Moon visible the day before the New Moon just before Sunrise or the day after for a brief time just after Sunset. Around the time it is exact there is no Moon visible at all because the Moon is lost in the glow of the Sun. That is why the New Moon is the seed planting time. New Moons are conception points or seeding points for clearly stating our intentions and/or prayers around our heart's desires allowing them an opportunity to find their most beneficial and supportive manifestation without attachment to the outcome.

Jan 1, Wednesday. Happy New Year! The Sun begins its conjunction with Chiron in Capricorn this morning. Chiron journeys through Capricorn every 50 years providing opportunities for Shamanic Healing in the most physically structured realm of experience. The Sun is illuminating the mysteries of the Shamanic Healer focusing on the deep wounds of the past cycle. (See December 31, 2002) The Moon is moving into Capricorn opening the Capricorn New Moon Window. Mercury in Capricorn is still faintly visible in the evening sky as it heads towards the Sun and its underworld journey.

Jan 2, Thursday. Today is the exact Capricorn New Moon at 12 Capricorn. At the New Moon, the Sun and the Moon are at the same sign and degree. As the New Moon reaches its exact position today, it also conjuncts Chiron in Capricorn. Chiron is being activated by the Sun and the Moon at the same time. The healing crisis or decision prompted by Chiron, the Moon and the Sun is about how to more effectively administrate the domain of our earthly life recognizing and releasing the limiting beliefs and structures of the past and choosing to consciously consider how our choices effect the next seven generations. How do we contribute to the health and well being of our personal and collective environment? How can we integrate what we know with what we do in a healthy way? How do we most effectively engage this Shamanic Journey returning once again to wholeness?

Mercury (28 Capricorn) stations retrograde late morning or early afternoon, depending on your time zone. Mercury stations direct in about three weeks on Jan 23 at 12 Capricorn. This three week period is a great timing for engaging right-brained creative activities, doing inner healing processes, and for completing projects already in motion. It is always wise to make sure you have a current back-up for you computer at these times and allow extra time for left brained type communication processes to take place.

Jan 3, Friday. Venus (26 Scorpio) squares Uranus (26 Aquarius) further initiating the feminine principle into unknown territory that is unpredictable for the purpose of creating change that helps fulfill the current evolutionary process. This timing signals a rapid growth phase in cutting edge, new ideas and ways of feeling and experiencing the increased power of life force, passion, magic, personal power, and manifestation. Some may feel emotional disruption, experiencing events designed to create movement and freedom, breaking up any remaining crystallization. Staying conscious with the process maximizes the results. The Moon meets Mercury in Capricorn just before the Moon moves into Aquarius later tonight and just before Mercury begins his conjunction with the Sun tomorrow and the start of his underworld journey.

Jan 4, Saturday. Sun conjuncts Mercury in Capricorn as Mercury moves within 15 degrees of the Sun, disappearing from the evening sky and beginning its underworld journey until rising on Jan 18 in the morning sky. The Moon conjuncts Neptune in Aquarius today. Neptune's job is to inspire our connection to the field of dreams or the field of all possibilities for the purpose of bringing in new visions and dreams. The Moon is illuminating this infinite field of possibilities and there may be feelings of confusion and lack of clarity about what to choose, especially when old patterns and beliefs and ways of operating are still in place or are still in the process of dissolving. The best way to consciously engage these energies is to trust your inner guidance, because external circumstances are often foggy, unclear, and misleading. Neptune teaches the importance of listening to and trusting those inner promptings to successfully navigate the unknown.

Jan 5, Sunday. The Moon, Uranus and Pallas Athena do a dance in the sky today in Aquarius, the sign of cosmic overview and revolutionary spirituality. Uranus and Pallas Athena meet first in the morning. Pallas Athena is the Goddess of Truth, the representative of Cosmic Truth to the Earth. She was vested by the Sun Goddess with the virtue of Truth and accepted the responsibility to sustain it for the people. All messengers who give truth to mankind are under the radiation and guidance of Pallas Athena. Uranus is involved with bringing about changes in areas where patterns have been in place too long by whatever means it takes. The Moon and Uranus have their meeting late tonight followed minutes later by an exact conjunction of the Moon and Pallas Athena, illuminating the changes that need to take place in a quest for Cosmic Truth.

Jan 6, Monday. Moon moves into Pisces later today encouraging us to dream our biggest dreams, imagining or "pretending" that they already exist. Energy follows our thoughts and our words. Imagine it, decree it so with gratitude, and know it is already on its way to manifesting. The final step is to take decisive action that supports the manifestation of your dreams.

Jan 7, Tuesday. Venus moves into the sign of Sagittarius this morning to explore the mysteries of the spiritual quest that expands self-understanding, knowledge and the meaning of life. This quest includes discovering new ways of experiencing the realm of spirit. Mars and Venus, still in courtship within 10 degrees of each other, continue to drift apart becoming six degrees apart today.

Jan 8, Wednesday. Moon moves into Aries today where it will remain until Jan 11. Aries is the energy of the rugged individualist, the impetuous youth, the Warrior Amazon, courageous, and strong, committed to upholding what they believe is truth and justice. The essence of Aries is absolutely straightforward and dualistic, black and white, good and bad. Whenever there is a war, or a battle against the dark lords, you want to have Aries on your side. Therefore, the Gods and Goddesses most associated with Aries are the defenders of the Cosmic Order.

Week of Jan 9-16. The Aries [First Quarter Moon](#) window is Jan 9, 10, and 11. (See Week of Jan 1 – 8 for details). The waxing half full Moon represents the balance between light and dark. This is the most visible growth phase of the Moon and the best time to put our ideas and plans into action. As the week progresses the Moon waxes, or gains in light, until the Full Moon in Cancer on Jan 18.

Jan 9, Thursday. The Warrior Amazon Moon in Aries conjuncts Ceres. In mythology, Ceres, also known as Demeter, was the grain goddess who went on strike and caused the Earth to become barren after Hades, or

Pluto, kidnapped her daughter Persephone. The girl was allowed to rejoin her mother, but only for half of the year. During these six months, Ceres allows the Earth to be fruitful, but during the other six months she mourns, and the Earth is without food. Ceres carries a Moon/Pluto tone and relates to possessiveness and loss. She also deals with nurturing and rewards.

Jan 10, Friday. Today the exact [First Quarter Moon](#) at 20 Aries calls us to spontaneously do something fun that nurtures and celebrates the inner child. It also calls us to commit to whatever we are willing to protect and defend within the cosmic order of life. First Quarter Moons are a great time to put our ideas and plans into action, and is intended to bring our conscious awareness to the threshold of initiation that accelerates the growth process. What decisive action are we willing to take to fulfill our intention and desire?

Jan 11, Saturday. Moon moves into Taurus this morning exploring beauty, intimacy and pleasure as its creative artistic expression and reminds us of the art of savoring and enjoying each moment and the importance of receiving all the abundant gifts life has to offer. Savoring life happens more easily when we consciously relax, slow down, breathe deeply, and recognize the boundless beauty of life. The Taurus mysteries also teach that physical love and pleasure in our bodies is a sacred experience. This is the gift of sacred pleasure, of joy in living, and flourishing with all of life. Mercury is in exact conjunction with the Sun (21 Capricorn) later today fueling ideas and possibilities with the information needed to put these ideas into action. Action is a necessary component of the three-fold creation process simply defined by thought, word and deed. This conjunction is the center point of Mercury's journey through the underworld, and then Mercury will arise in the evening sky around Jan 18.

Jan 12, Sunday. Mars (27 Scorpio) squares Uranus (27 Aquarius) late last night into today, invoking an initiatory strategy involving unpredictable events designed to bring about change. This is a similar initiation as we saw for the feminine principle earlier this month (see Jan 3, Venus in Scorpio squared Uranus in Aquarius), but now involves Mars, representing the inner masculine or masculine principle.

Jan 13, Monday. Moon moves into Gemini today transmitting the mysteries of the coyote trickster who reminds us not to take things too seriously. These mysteries take us beyond rational, linear logic, seeing the humor in life and creatively seeking fun ways to express it. Creativity is Gemini's essence. Now is a time to creatively socialize and have fun.

Jan 14, Tuesday. Mars in Scorpio and Venus in Sagittarius have moved to 8 degrees separation, soon to end their encounter as Venus heads continues towards her underworld journey and a conjunction with the Shamanic Initiator, Pluto, along the way.

Jan 15, Wednesday. Moon conjuncts Saturn (26 Gemini) illuminating Saturn's journey now occurring in the Gemini domain. Saturn is the structure and form that destiny shapes itself through. Saturn's transit through Gemini stretches Saturn's edges beyond the known and accepted rules of the old structure, exploring new information, insights and possibilities that support new growth and greater creative expression. If you have clear skies the direct experience of this conjunction is worth taking the time to experience. Check websites like <http://skyandtelescope.com> for details on how to locate Saturn.

Jan 16, Thursday. Moon moves into Cancer early this morning or late last night, depending on your time zone, reminding us of the importance of nurturing ourselves and our dreams for maximum growth and fulfillment, similar to the ways we might nurture a rapidly growing child. When we learn how to nurture our own inner child we are better able to consciously nurture the children of the world in a healthy way.

Week of Jan 17 – 23. This week features the Cancer [Full Moon](#) on Jan 18 (29 Cancer). The Full Moon window is three days including the day before (Jan 17) and the day after (Jan 19). (See Week Jan 1 - 8 for details). This timing symbolizes fulfillment, or fruition when the seeds of earlier cycles are reaching their Full Bloom.

Jan 17, Friday. Day one of the three day [Full Moon](#) window has the Moon in Cancer until tomorrow when it will shift into the sign of Leo. Mars and Venus in Sagittarius end their courtship in the sky as their conjunction ends after 63 days together in the morning sky.

Jan 18, Saturday. [Full Moon](#) moves into Leo energizing the archetypal energy of the King/Queen or Superstar. Healthy Leo energy helps us to once again recognize we are all aspects of the divine. The next couple of days are good for finding ways to celebrate who we are and responsibly demonstrate radical, radiant self-love. Mercury becomes visible in the morning sky as he rises battered from his underworld journey. Mars enters Sagittarius, returning to the sign of his current quest and beginning phase five, the Maturity and Elder Knowledge phase of the Sag quest.

Jan 19, Sunday. Moon conjuncts Jupiter at 14 Leo. Jupiter and the Moon continue to meet monthly until Aug 2003. They are meeting in Leo further illuminating and energizing the Leo Mysteries that Jupiter is already expanding. This is a great time to commit to practices that support valid experiences of true self-love. Listening to your heart knowing from the place of love and acceptance is one such helpful practice. Forgiveness of self and others also further accelerates this process. Through the power and grace of forgiveness, forgiving the unforgivable, whether it is ourselves or others being forgiven, love is liberated and with that release-freedom, peace, power and new life are available. True self-love is the result.

Jan 20, Monday. Today the Sun moves into Aquarius this morning where it remains until Feb 18, fueling the mysteries of the cosmic revolutionary who experiments with innovative ideas intended to accelerate growth and consciousness. This is a good time to question the rules and structure of your life and find where they are limiting and restrictive. Invite the changes that support your freest expression of who you truly are. Moon moves into Virgo later today in the archetypal realm of Spider Woman who is attuned to the natural seasonal cycles and rhythms of the Earth and Sky. There are cycles occurring daily, weekly, monthly, yearly, and so on. When we attune ourselves to the patterning of the cycles within cycles we can then live more easily in natural harmony with all life.

Mercury, the messenger, conjuncts Chiron, the wounded healer, in Capricorn tonight. And as fate would have it, this day is dedicated to honor **Martin Luther King, Jr.**, who once said, "In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends," urging us to speak up for what we believe (and heal our wounds of the past).

Jan 21, Tuesday. Venus (14 Sagittarius) trines Jupiter (14 Leo) magnifies and expands the feminine principle and the quest for truth and meaning as it applies to embodying our radiant and shining divine essence. These energies may also expand your spiritual view of the world and bring forth the knowledge, course of study, and experiences that support the fulfillment of this intent. The alchemy of this timing supports the embracing and releasing of the shadow or fears that prevent us from truly loving who we are.

Jan 22, Wednesday. Moon moves into Libra calling attention to the mysteries of conscious equal partnership in all our relationships. This is the archetype of the diplomat who is willing to listen to all sides, to all the parts and threads of the tapestry, weaving together an understanding designed to support the needs of all the parts. Thus the truth of all parts is acknowledged and honored and then we naturally live in right relationship, peace, harmony, and balance with all life.

Mercury stations direct later today creating another shift in our consensus reality experience. This is a good time to roll with the flow and take life as it comes, while attuning to the creative energy, inspiring insights, understanding and wisdom now emerging from this deep inner retrograde process as Mercury shifts direction. Remember these energies may be felt for several days before and after today. In fact, many may have felt this energy over the course of the month and will continue to feel it until around Feb 12 when Mercury finally passes the degree it stationed retrograde earlier this month.

Jan 23, Thursday. Moon conjuncts Vesta in Libra. According to Demetra George and Douglas Bloch in their book *Astrology For Yourself*; Vesta "*represents our capacity to integrate and focus our energies, and experience wholeness of self. Vesta utilizes the feminine creative energy for personal regeneration and dedication to specific goals and aspirations.*"

Week of Jan 24 – 30. January ends near where it began in [last quarter phase of the Moon](#). (See Week of Dec 25 – Jan 1). Jan 24 begins the three day window and the Last Quarter Moon is exact Jan 25 at 5 Scorpio. This Moon phase symbolizes the completion or integration process of the current Moon cycle that lasts until the New Moon window that is Jan 1 and Feb 2, 3.

Jan 24, Friday. Moon enters Scorpio later today. The Scorpio mysteries include death and rebirth, resurrection and renewal, and empowerment through the Shamanic Journey that calls us to face the fears that disempower us. It is helpful to surrender to divine will, aligning personal will with divine will for the purpose of mastering the art of magic and manifestation. This requires personal sacrifice or the willingness "to make sacred" through surrender to the divine.

Jan 25, Saturday. The [last quarter phase of the Moon](#) is exact in the early morning at 5 Scorpio. Venus conjuncts Pluto later today at 19 Sagittarius. The sacred feminine principle currently on a quest for truth and meaning on her way to the underworld is encountering the Shamanic Initiator (Pluto) in a powerful opportunity to release all obsessions, beliefs, and fears to facilitate yet another transformation that allows new experiences and ways of being to guide her quest, bringing her face to face with her deepest fears so she can transform them into the medicine she carries.

Jan 26, Sunday. Moon moves into Sagittarius tonight illuminating the mysteries of the quest for truth, the expansion of the self to the widest possible horizons, the experience of adventures or vision quests and to boldly go where no one has gone before. Mercury has its second conjunction with Chiron in Capricorn this month (See Jan 20) after stationing direct on Jan 22.

Jan 27, Monday. Moon conjuncts Mars at 7 Sagittarius, the first of many meetings during Phase five, Maturity and Elder Knowledge, of the Sagittarius Quest. During this phase of the current 26-month quest, Mars, the warrior/hero, nears the end of the journey. He makes a slow, thorough passage through the sign and region marking his quest, savoring it and, if things have gone well, demonstrating his knowledge as elder and teacher of this mystery school.

Jan 28, Tuesday. Moon conjuncts Pluto early this morning. The monthly conjunction of the Moon with Pluto provides an activation or pathway illuminating the shadowed, often hidden elements of our world bringing them into the light. It is a monthly activation and reminder of the potency of embracing the shadow, inviting it into our personal alchemical cauldron of transformational change with the intent to purify and transform all the harm, all the fear, all the poisons, and all the wounds into the medicine, or elixirs, that magically heal and restore wholeness.

Moon conjuncts Venus later today as Venus passes through the 3rd gate into the underworld, symbolizing where Inanna is asked to give up her 3rd piece of royal garment, as she must enter the underworld naked and bowed low. Unlike the myth of Persephone (see Jan 9), Inanna was not abducted into the underworld; she chose to make the journey, shedding her identification with the masculine, dying to an old way of being, and waiting for rebirth. She descends, submits, and dies; hers is not a passive passage, for she expresses an active willingness to receive and grow.

Jan 29, Wednesday. Moon moves into Capricorn for the second time this month, early this morning or late last night, depending on your time zone, and also has its second conjunction with Chiron in Capricorn late tonight or early tomorrow morning, again depending on your location (See Jan 2).

Jan 30, Thursday. Moon conjuncts Mercury early this morning before becoming Void of Course. When the Moon approaches the end of each sign, it goes beyond its last major aspect, or connection, with another planet. When this happens, and until it moves into the next sign, the Moon is said to be Void of Course. This period is a time when we can feel uncomfortably disconnected and without direction. It is, therefore, an ideal time for centering ourselves. It's a reminder to kick back, relax and focus your attention inward. Once the Moon shifts to the new sign, in this case Aquarius, the energy shifts with it. The void of course condition may occur for only seconds or minutes of time or it may last for a day or two. It all depends on the locations of the planets and their interactions at the time. This period is one of the longer ones, beginning early this morning, remaining through the rest of the day and until early tomorrow morning when the Moon moves into Aquarius (4:44am PT).

Jan 31, Friday. Moon moves in Aquarius transmitting the mysteries of the cosmic revolutionary. This energy is committed to its own unique path of self-expression, questioning what is and not settling for the limitations of the status quo. This is a good time to step back for a good look at the big picture, and make changes where needed.

Even after all this time the sun never says to the earth, "You owe me." Look what happens with a love like that. It lights the whole sky. – Hafiz

Thank you to Carolyn Brent for permission to use relevant information from her prior celestial timings.

Tina is available for personal readings by calling (504) 286-8275 or emailing tmayerhafer@worldnet.att.net

Mar 19-23, 2003 Sedona, Arizona First Level Chart Analysis Intensive with Daniel Giamario and Carolyn Brent in Sedona Arizona hosted by Jade Wah'oo. Cost: \$375 Beginners welcome. This in depth intensive teaches the most important tools of Shamanic Astrology and is a required course for those in the Shamanic Astrology Apprenticeship program. To register contact [Daniel Giamario](#) at 541-471-7109 or [Carolyn Brent](#) at 520-744-0506.

May 14-18, 2003 Faywood Hot Springs near Deming, New Mexico Total Lunar Eclipse Shamanic Astrology Gathering with Carolyn Brent, John Dumas and Shamanic Astrology Staff Cost: \$222 No Previous Knowledge of Astrology Necessary. More Details on the Website Contact Daniel (208) 255-1743 or Carolyn (520) 744-0506. Counts as credit for Night Sky Track of Shamanic Astrology Certification Program.