

Introduction to the July Celestial Timings by Carolyn Brent

I am delighted to share with you the writings of Leslie Harris who has once again gifted us with her wonderful and brilliant insights for the first two weeks of the July Celestial Timings. Since I was traveling most of June and I didn't get a chance to see what Leslie had written before I began writing my part - we somehow overlapped each other on two days. Since I had already written my impressions when I discovered this I decided to include them both and I have marked which ones are which on July 15 and 16.

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Part One July 2004 Celestial Timings

By Leslie Harris

I would like to thank Carolyn Brent for another opportunity to write a portion of the Celestial Timings, and for her unwavering support and trust. It is such a humbling, yet incredibly powerful learning experience that has truly enhanced the teachings I've received from both her and Daniel Giamario in the Shamanic Astrology Apprenticeship Program. For all of the gifts that come with these teachings, and for all that they've done to make it available to us, I give my heartfelt gratitude and respect to both Carolyn and Daniel.

For private readings with Leslie, please call (503) 706-8312 or email Leslie@eastoforion.com or DancingCloudDreams@msn.com to schedule your appointment, at the special rate of \$115.00 for all appointments scheduled during July & August. That is a savings of \$35.00 off of the regular price of \$150.00. Your reading will include the following: Natal Chart Interpretation, 1 Year of Transits & Cycles, 1 Year of Personal Sun/Moon Phase Returns, Color Printout of Natal Chart, An Audiotape of the Session

July's Current Theme. While June brought us much excitement with the recent activities of Venus – both her retrograde phase (May 18 – June 29) and her transit across the face of the glorious Sun (June 7-8), we must now prepare ourselves to begin implementing the dispensations that we've received and the subsequent changes in our lives and our relationship to the Divine Feminine.

This time also marks the end of Venus' journey through Scorpio these past nineteen months (November 7, 2002 – June 14, 2004), and the beginning of her journey through Gemini for the next nineteen months (June 15, 2004 – January 20, 2006). She's been newly empowered through the deeply transformative mysteries of Scorpio, and is embracing the call of the Gemini mysteries into the dual realms of Spirit and Matter. Now, more than ever, we must access our own ability to perceive and communicate our truth – to dance with our own light and shadow, with one another, and all things existing between Spirit & Matter – in all the places 'betwixt and between', so that we may fully enter into the new paradigm of collective consciousness.

The equally receptive and nurturing Cancerian influences of the first part of this month also inspire us to connect with our greater maternal lineage – the feminine mysteries of the Divine Mother Nurturer. An opportunity is provided to go inward, to be reflective and to awaken to the total potentiality of the true expression of the Self in this incarnation. With these influences,

we are guided to nurture and heal ourselves, to rescue our own internal victim and wounded child, and to be our own hero and savior. It is a time for each of us to be our own interpreters – our own navigators of the celestial bodies residing within, as we are the living expressions of Spirit in Matter. The ideal of "As Above, So Below" is no longer an abstract concept, as we embrace the infinite and realize that there is no division between any one of us and Great Mystery, and that we do not have to seek our answers outside of ourselves; everything that exists outside of us, exists within us.

Interestingly, the constellation of the Crab (more commonly known as Cancer currently found between 26 Cancer and 17 Leo with the Sun transiting through this constellation from July 18 to Aug 10) contains the Beehive Cluster of stars, also known as M44. In classical times it was known as Praesepe, which means "the manger". The fixed stars of the Crab once marked the position of the Sun at the June Solstice (currently the June Solstice is located at the center point of the [Sacred Hoop](#)). For the ancient Egyptians, the Crab was the Sun-God Khephri, symbolizing fertility, life and rebirth – the personification of the scarab, or dung beetle. These all reflect what we associate today with the feminine mysteries. (See [Difference between Signs and Constellations](#))

Truly, it is time to "see with new eyes and to hear with new ears", and to understand how the heavens support us in this journey, simply step outside into the warm July evening, and

look to the stars in the night sky to tune into the great expansiveness of constellations that have guided us since time began. With their luminosity, they have reflected and embodied our myths and legends; our collective “stories”. To access this ancient wisdom that is available to all, and to receive your own personal dispensation, look and listen with an open heart. What messages are the great Goddesses whispering for you? What wisdom do the Gods impart? How do they beckon to excite your Soul and lead you to your personal truth?

"TO MY FELLOW SWIMMERS":

"There is a river flowing now very fast.

It is so great and swift that there are those who will be afraid. They will try to hold on to the shore. They will feel they are being torn apart and will suffer greatly.

Know the river has its destination.

We must let go of the shore, push off into the middle of the river, keep our eyes open, and our heads above the water. And I say, see who is in there with you and celebrate."

"At this time in history, we are to take nothing personal, least of all ourselves. For the moment that we do, our spiritual growth and journey comes to a halt. The time of the lone wolf is over. Gather yourselves! Banish the word 'struggle' from your attitude and your vocabulary. All that we do now must be done in a sacred manner and in celebration."

"WE ARE THE ONES WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR"

Hopi Nation, Oraibi Arizona

September, 2001

“We are going to the moon, that is not very far. Man has so much farther to go within himself.”
Anais Nin, Diary of Anais Nin, 1931-1934

The July Sky in the Northern Hemisphere. In clear view is The Milky Way, running north to south and east of center across the sky. Immediately visible is the Summer Triangle, which consists of three brilliant stars: Vega (*the Swooping Vulture/Eagle*) in Lyra (*the Lyre*), Deneb (*the Tail; of Cygnus the Swan*). Cygnus (*the Swan*), is at the southeast apex of the triangle, and Altair (*the eye of the Eagle*) is in Aquila (*the Eagle*). Cygnus (*the Swan*) forms the Northern Cross, with Deneb (*the Tail*) at the head of the cross. Looking up from the south towards the west, you can see the Virgin Priestess (more commonly referred to as *Virgo*) with its bright star Spica (*marking the hand of the Virgin Priestess sometimes seen as holding corn or wheat*) and in a direct line overhead from Spica is Arcturus (*the Bear-Keeper*) in Bootes (*the Herdsman*) riding high. Also located by following the handle of the big dipper in a arc to the bright red star Arcturus. After Sunset south of East just above the horizon the Scorpion (*Scorpius*) is in full glory with its bright star Antares (*the Rival/Equivalent to Ares, the Heart of the Scorpion*).

The July Sky in the Southern Hemisphere. Ophiucus (*the Serpent Holder*), can be seen grappling with, or simply holding, Serpens (*the Snake*), just central and above the northern horizon and Hercules (*the Hero*). The serpent's head is visible just above the crescent Corona Borealis (*the Northern Crown*). Visible on the ecliptic, are the Milky Way groupings of the Scorpion (*a.k.a. Scorpius*) and the Archer (*a.k.a. as Sagittarius*) and to the south is the bright star of Pavo (*the Peacock*). Far south and east of the Milky Way, the season brings visibility to Achernar (*the*

River's End) at the foot of Eridanus (*the River*). Aquila (*the Eagle*) with its bright star Altair (*the eye of the Eagle*) flies backward over the eastern horizon, as *the Virgin Priestess* (Virgo) begins her descent into the western horizon.

Planets Visible in the Morning Sky. Venus and Saturn are visible in the morning sky this month, with Venus at its greatest brilliancy on July 15.

Venus (June 15th – December 31st)

Saturn (July 27th – December 31st)

Planets Visible in the Evening Sky. Mercury, Mars and Jupiter are visible in the evening sky, although Mars may be the most difficult to see. Mercury is brighter and they will be conjunct on July 10.

Mercury (June 26th – August 17th)

Mars (January 1st – July 31st)

Jupiter (March 4th – September 8th)

To learn more about the myths and legends of the 88 constellations, you can visit the website of the Legg Middle School, in Coldwater, Michigan.

They have assembled quite a comprehensive resource.

www.coldwater.k12.mi.us/lms/planetarium/constellation.html

July Timings

Week of July 1-7. On July 1st, the Moon reaches its second closest perigee distance of the year, and with a Full Moon occurring about 1 ½ days later, extra large tides are likely to occur. This is important to be aware of as many of us head for the beaches to cool off over the long holiday weekend. The already intense energies of this month are accentuated by a theme of polarities, as the Sun moves through the sign of Cancer throughout the first half of July. This peaks on July 2 with a Full Moon (Capricorn) naturally opposing the Sun (Cancer). Our relationship to the element of water in our lives is enhanced and leads us into our emotional nature. With Mercury entering the sign of Leo (July 4-25), there is also an emphasis on a desire for recognition and understanding.

July 1, Thursday. July starts in full swing today, as we embrace the eve of the Full Moon in Capricorn, engaging the Capricorn and Cancer axis inviting us to consider the seven generations to follow and our relationship to our communities, our families, and ourselves – creating a balance between the internal horizon of our emotions and feelings, and the external horizon of our responsibilities and commitments. As Mercury (24 Cancer) opposes Chiron (24 Capricorn) there is an awakening to the need to individually take more responsibility for our collective condition, and to join in the creation of a new form and expression for healing ourselves and our planet.

“When you make a world tolerable for yourself, you make a world tolerable for others.” Anais Nin

Note from Carolyn...another way I would language this idea would be this way...**“When you make a world beautiful and pleasurable for yourself, you make a world beautiful and pleasurable for others.”**

July 2, Friday. The Capricorn Full Moon (11 Capricorn) reaches its opposition at 4:09 am Pacific Time with the Sun in Cancer, the “resonate sign” of the Moon. Saturn (15 Cancer) is also near the Sun culminating in an interesting set of dynamics,

continuing the dance of polarities between Capricorn and Cancer, as well as the Sun and the Moon, taking us deeper into an exploration of who we are and what we are doing, how we are doing it – and why. As we shine our light inward, our motivations take center stage, and thus we are able to see more clearly the initial impulse that triggers response. Do we readily respond to the needs and desires of others, simply to avoid responding to our own inner calling, which may seem too grand or scary? If our focus is constantly placed outside of ourselves, we can lose touch with Spirit and end up energetically and emotionally bankrupt, and unable to meet our own needs. The fulcrum point existing between responsible nurturing and responsibility requires constant attention. It is a time to call upon our inner Council of Wise Ones for guidance in nurturing ourselves and revitalizing the essence of our own wisdom. With Jupiter (13 Virgo) in trine with this bright, Full Moon, there is the gift of an expansive light that we can shine within ourselves to look for our own answers and solutions. With newly transformed Venus (9 Gemini) squaring Uranus (6 Pisces), perceptions and belief systems may have been altered enough over the past few days to allow for a shift in personal identity in relationship to the Divine Feminine.

July 3, Saturday. The Moon moves into Aquarius around 10:22 am Pacific time activating the Aquarian mysteries. The suggest the world is alight with new thought and a focus on humanity, as the ethereal Goddess Kwan Yin seeks to awaken the inner revolutionary through universal love and conscious awareness. Mars in Leo on the polar axis, brings out the expression of “Radiant, Radical, Self-Love” with the enthusiasm and innocent confidence of a child. This dynamic combination empowers with a sense of entitlement, an ability to easily dream big and to step into your highest expression.

July 4, Sunday – U.S. Independence Day. Venus (9 Gemini) is rising just over a degree north of the bright star Aldebaran visible shortly before dawn. By evening, in the midst of all the celebratory activities, the waning Aquarian Moon goes Void of Course (VOC) until mid-day tomorrow. (See July 7 for VOC info)

On the anniversary of this momentous day in our country’s history, we celebrate our national freedom, our communities, families and friends. We have occasion to be reminded of the sacrifices of our ancestors, and the privileges including personal freedoms they did not have. Even now, many have given and are giving their all to defend this honor and what they hold most dear. It is easy to forget that it this same, or a similar motivation, that continues to fuel conflicts worldwide. Most of us here in America are removed from the direct experience of war – the daily horrors and the ensuing destruction. We have the luxury of having an educated opinion of the politics and greed in the world today – of who is right and who is wrong, yet so many of us don’t remember (or ever even knew!) the more intimate history of other parts of the world... the individual events that make these conflicts all so personal to others.

Considering the state of the world at these auspicious times, we are challenged to extend the expanded Aquarian vision of the Eagle, to fly high above and see the greater picture of a world without borders, one in which we are all connected to each other in thought and deed, in hopes of forming a bond of compassion with all of humanity – our global family. In expanding one’s

view so vastly, it can actually allow for the realization and acceptance that there is almost always more than one version of the same truth. Since the beginning of time, it has been proven that the human spirit can triumph over great adversity, and with Mercury in Leo (July 2-25) our focus on information, communication, perception is activated in a powerful way. When the Kingly Lion speaks (roars!), everyone notices – so it is wise to practice discernment and be clear about what you want to say. (see week of July 8 – 16 for Sun conjunct Sirius info)

July 5, Monday. The waning Aquarian Moon is still Void of Course (VOC) until late morning or early afternoon depending on your time zone ending a long weekend of celebration that began with a Full Moon and ended with a bang – quite literally, if you heard any of the fireworks! Tranquil, more spiritual moods begin to emerge throughout the day as the waning Moon enters Pisces at 11:26 AM PDT, and then conjuncts Uranus (6 Pisces) late in the evening. In the calm of the “day after”, the presence of the loving, compassionate energy of the Bodhisattva is more accessible. (see Jul 7 for VOC info)

July 6, Tuesday. The waning Moon is on the move through Pisces activating a grand planetary line up! It starts off early morning by squaring Venus (10 Gemini), then opposes Jupiter (14 Virgo), trines Saturn (16 Cancer) by afternoon and squares off with Pluto (20 Sagittarius) by late evening. Plus the Moon trines the Sun (15 Cancer) illuminating the water element suggesting this is a time of deepening spiritual connection.

In recent history, Pisces has become identified with the more masculine symbolism of Christ as the “First Fish” in Christian culture, as he was born after the March equinox point had precessed from Aries back into Pisces, thus marking the transition to a new “Great Age”. Prior to that time, the ancient symbol of the fish in the form of Pisces was embodied by a feminine archetype and was thought to have consisted of only one fish known as Derke, a Syrian Goddess who was half-fish, half-woman...similar to our version of the Mermaid. Some cultures knew her as Astargatis, and the Babylonians knew her as Nunu. The Roman version of the fish-goddess comes from the myth of Venus and her son Cupid (Aphrodite and Eros in Greek mythology), who tried to escape by water when startled by the monster, Typhon. As they plunged into the sea, they were both transformed into fishes and they tied themselves together with a cord to ensure that they did not lose each other. Today, we can still look to the heavens to see mother and son, bound together by the cord of love in the constellation of the Fish (a.k.a Pisces).

July 7, Wednesday. The waning Moon went Void of Course in Pisces late last night and lasts most of the day, until it shifts gears into Aries at 4:03 pm Pacific time. Whenever the Moon is Void of Course, we often lack a sense of direction and feel disconnected – from our emotions, our rational thought, from Source and from our purpose. This is a good time to relax...to “Let Go and Let God”, to breathe and surrender to gentle rocking – the ebb and flow of the universal tides. If we are not constantly pushing towards some destination or goal, we may find ourselves enjoying the unexpected! Most of the time, it is difficult to hold a vision that is big enough to encompass all the potentiality that is available. It is only through surrendering the personal will that one can receive the inspiration of the greater

will – the Divine Dispensation that acts as an elixir to the Soul and recharges our batteries. This respite can provide the energy to push forward into the more active and self-aware state of the Moon in Aries occurring over the next few days.

Week of July 8-16. It is interesting to note that what we commonly refer to as the Dog Days of Summer actually marks the relationship of the Dog Star Sirius with the Sun. Interestingly, the signing of the Declaration of Independence was planned to coincide with the annual conjunction of the Sun with Sirius exact in 1776 on July 4. The Sun dance with the Sirius lasts for most of July and August and varies depending on latitude and horizon line with special emphasis on the heliacal rise of Sirius on July 26. These days are usually the pinnacle point of our summer season in the northern hemisphere, and are recognized as the most torrid, hot and sultry of all, and it is said that it is the time when dogs are most likely to run mad. These fiery energies continue to intensify, as we approach the Blue Moon at the end of the month. (See July 26 and July 31).

July 8, Thursday. Today, as the Aries Moon trines both Mercury (6 Leo) and Mars (9 Leo) in the morning, the vitality of the life force energy increases, providing both energy and clarity for acting in alignment with one's original mission and bringing forth the eternal youth and optimism of the Puer/Puella. As the Moon moves into square with Saturn (16 Cancer) by late evening, the push is to create new ways of sustaining the Cosmic Order that the Aries Amazon Warrior is committed to defending, similar to the great Goddess Sekhmet, who tirelessly defended ancient Egypt with her fierce dedication and commitment.

July 9, Friday. The Aries [Last Quarter Moon](#) (18 Aries) is exact early morning, then the Moon trines Pluto (20 Sagittarius) at 5:51 am Pacific time before going Void of Course (VOC) for the rest of the day. This Moon phase is a time for releasing and while this month it is moving out of the passionate energy of Aries before going into Taurus, it paves the way to enable us to consciously choose to release our misconceptions and limiting perceptions of ourselves and others. Life is holographic in nature, thus we are truly reflected in each others' eyes. How we "see" someone literally determines our experience. Focused thought forms crystallize into formation – into being. Therefore, responsibility lies within each of us to re-vision ourselves, each other, and the world around us, as the most true and divine expression possible. It isn't necessary to know exactly what that is, but simply to have the awareness and compassion to hold the intent, and then allow it to be. (See July 7 for VOC info)

"We don't see things as they are, We see things as we are."
Anais Nin

"Choose what feels good to you and leave everybody else to choose what they want. Don't spend any time saying, "They should choose differently and they'd feel better." Instead say, "They're choosing whatever they're choosing; I'm choosing what I'm choosing, and I'm feeling good while I'm choosing it." And let that be the end of it. Be certain that you are connected to your Source Energy, and let everybody else figure it out for themselves. Some of them will adore you, some of them will hate you — and none of it has anything to do with you." Expressed by [Abraham-Hicks](#), 5/8/01B

July 10, Saturday. The Moon enters Taurus overnight (0:51 AM PDT) extending an invitation to experience intimacy and pleasure. This investigation of pleasure is all about bringing Spirit into matter simply to enjoy it, for it's own sake – to be the epicurean of life. Venus (11 Gemini), acting in one expression as the quintessential Goddess of Love and Relationship explores the depths of intimacy in the watery, mystical realms of Neptune (14 Aquarius), as they move into trine with one another. Late in the evening, the Moon (2 Taurus) squares both Mercury and Mars (both at 10 Leo) igniting passions.

July 11, Sunday. Today, the Taurus Moon holds court by exactly trining Jupiter (14 Virgo) and squaring Neptune (14 Aquarius), who is still in harmony with Venus (12 Gemini), deepening yesterday's exploration by engaging and honoring the Sacred in expressions of intimacy and pleasure. The symbol of the Bull, long associated with both the zodiacal sign of Taurus and constellation of the Bull, is also identified with the Egyptian bull-god and earthly King, Osiris, and his sister, lover and Queen, Isis, the cow-goddess – the crescent Moon forming her horns. Theirs was truly a mystical and sacred relationship, as reflected in one of history's greatest myths of love, death, intimacy and rebirth – ultimately culminating in a magical conception transcending all earthly limitations. For more about Isis and Osiris and their enduring relationship, you can read "The Egyptian Book of the Dead", or check out these websites www.egyptianmyths.net/mythisis.htm www.goddessgift.com/goddess-myths/egyptian_goddess_Isis.htm.

July 12, Monday. Around midday, our awareness begins to shift gears as the waning Moon enters Gemini and is approaching Venus (12 Gemini) in the early morning sky visible before sunrise. The Gemini mysteries are further accentuated as Mercury (12 Leo) begins its trine with Pluto (20 Sagittarius), evoking the dance between light and shadow, and bringing the interplay constantly existing between the two, into focus. When we become light polarized toward our spiritual ideals, we create an imbalance with our own shadow (human) nature, creating a loss of our own essence. The subsequent grief of that loss and denied Self, only grows until it is recognized as a necessary and valued part of the whole. Only by integrating the two natures of our being, can we completely shine forth our true light.

July 13, Tuesday. Many lunar aspects make this a busy day for both the mind and the heart. The lineup starts with the Gemini Moon squaring Uranus (6 Pisces) at 1:41 AM PDT, filling our dreamtime with new visions, inspiration and ideals to wake up with. As we move through the day, the Moon sextiles Mars (12 Leo), conjuncts Venus (12 Gemini), trines Neptune (14 Aquarius), squares Jupiter (15 Virgo) and finally sextiles Mercury (14 Leo). All of this activity coincides with Mercury (14 Leo) directly opposing Neptune (14 Aquarius), accessing a portal into the dreams and visions that create a supportive environment for sharing and receiving information and direct transmissions. Today the Moon joins with Venus visible in the early morning sky marking the passage of Venus (Inanna/Ishtar) through the first gate into the underworld. This gate is sometimes referred to as the *gate of authority* and is associated with the crown chakra. In the story of Inanna's descent it is at this gate where she is required to relinquish her crown symbolizing the release of any distortions in her connection to

divine source and her ability to act with authority from this source.

July 14, Wednesday. Early this morning, the waning Gemini Moon opposes Pluto (20 Sagittarius) and then immediately goes Void of Course (VOC) for the rest of the day. As we are departing from the Gemini mysteries, there is still an opportunity to access the wisdom of Heyokah Coyote Woman. Her teachings often come in reverse and do not always become clear until hindsight is available. Pluto, the Great Initiator and Transformer, seeks to bring forth whatever is hidden in the recesses of our innermost being. Between the two, there is a pull to be authentic in all expressions, and to discern what is real and what is illusion. (See July 7 for VOC info)

Part Two July Celestial Timings by Carolyn Brent

Coming up in the second half of July it is interesting to note that at least two well known cultures (Egyptian and Mayan) celebrated a *time out of time* experience just prior to the Heliacal Rise of Sirius that then marked their New Year's celebration. The **Egyptians** used a 360-day calendar and then celebrated five days out of time that coincided with the mythic birth of Nut's five children, Isis, Osiris, Set, Nephthys and Horus. The **Mayan** Calendar celebrated July 25 as *the day out of time* with the New Year for both cultures being celebrated on July 26 or at the heliacal rise of Sirius.

July 15, Thursday by Leslie Harris. The Cancer Moon Mysteries are fully engaged today! Darkly the Moon wanes as it enters the sign of Cancer in the early morning hours, encouraging us to touch our feelings and explore the realm of the Great Mother. What primordial feelings does she evoke from us? What lies hidden from our sight deep within, that is illuminated by her unconditional love? As the Moon trines Uranus (6 Pisces) and Mars (13 Leo) trines Pluto (20 Sagittarius), we are supported in this process of discovery, release and transformation.

Jul 15, Thursday by Carolyn Brent. Yesterday Venus reached her brightest morning star appearance (4.5 magnitude about six times brighter than Jupiter's brightest appearance) and is definitely worth seeing if you are up before the Sun. Early this morning 1:40 am Pacific Time the waning Moon enters Cancer crossing the Galactic Gateway looking out into deep space. The Moon rises in the east around 4 am local time depending on your horizon line and will be just beyond the galactic gateway. Once each month the Moon crosses this area of the sky a.k.a. as Galactic Anti-center inside the [Sacred Hoop](#) or Great Shining Circle. The Moon (in early degrees of Cancer) and Saturn (18 Cancer) are located inside the Circle or Hoop but Saturn is still too close to the Sun to be visible and only a small crescent Moon is visible before Sunrise. Also today the Sun (24 Cancer) opposite retrograde Chiron (24 Capricorn) along with the Moon's activation of the Galactic Gateway is illuminating possible ways on how we can more consciously choose our doing for the purpose of restructuring our experience of home, family and work in the world in ways that are more nourishing and supportive to us and to our planet.

Week of Jul 16 - 22. The Cancer [New Moon](#) window begins July 16 is exact July 17 (at 25 Cancer) and completes on July 18. The Moon is born anew every 29 and ½ days, dying to the previous cycle and beginning a new journey. The New Moon is a conception point, a time when farmers plant their seeds, or a new adventure (or initiation) begins. (For more in-depth description of the Moon phases see week of Jul 30 – Aug 5). 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 visible the day before just before Sunrise or the day after for a brief time just after Sunset. At the time of the exact New Moon the Moon is always invisible to the naked eye. That is why the New Moon is the seed planting time. Working with a clear intent during the New Moon window (the day before, day of and day after the exact New Moon) is a wonderful timing for collectively planting seeds, or prayers, for wholeness, healing, harmony, balance, peace, and so on.

July 16, Friday – New Moon Eve by Leslie Harris. As we approach the New Moon in Cancer, we are at the darkest part of the month, when the Milky Way is most visible on the backdrop of a clear night sky. The beautiful ribbon stretches out above us, so that we may gaze upon what appear to be islands of stars – our home Galaxy. To gain a perspective of its enormity, consider that our Sun is one of an estimated 100,000 million stars in the whole Galaxy, which is positioned on one of the spiral arms that's approximately two-thirds of the way out from Galactic Center in the star fields of Sagittarius – the hub of the entire system. Throughout time, the Milky Way has drawn our focus heavenward and been a source of imaginative inspiration. It is most universally seen as a river or a road – or a pathway of Souls. Perhaps this is because the gateways between Heaven and Earth exist where the ecliptic intersects the Milky Way in the constellations of the Archer (Sagittarius) and the Twins (Gemini). As we gaze upon the flowing heavenly river, we can be assured that we are continually gifted with billions of stars to shine light on our pathway in the darkness guiding us on all our journeys.

Jul 16, Friday by Carolyn Brent. The Moon is conjunct Saturn (18 Cancer) inside the [Sacred Hoop](#) within the beginning of this New Moon window. Due to the close proximity of the Sun neither the Moon nor Saturn are visible at the time of their conjunction. The Moon's passage by a planet illuminates the emerging mysteries associated with that planet. Saturn is concerned with the mysteries of structure and form, of the matrix that supports our reality, providing the structures that reflect our beliefs. If we change our beliefs we change the matrix, the form, or structure of our experience. Also today the questing Mars (14 Leo) hero is opposite dreamy and visionary Neptune (14 Aquarius) in sextile to the Heyokah heroine Venus (14 Gemini) and Venus is trine Neptune calling attention to the field of all possibilities where we create our reality through our imagination. The unadvertised but fabulous movie **“What the Bleep Do We Know”** addresses both of these concepts beautifully and is worth seeing if it is playing in your area.

Jul 17, Saturday. The exact Cancer New Moon (25 Cancer) is occurring on the boundary or perimeter of the [Sacred Hoop](#) at 4:24 am Pacific Time further energizing the mantle of a new consciousness and awareness, or a new matrix now emerging at this current turning of the great wheel of time. This new Moon

is an opportunity to further seed the best, most harmonious, balanced possibilities for expressing responsible nurturing towards ourselves, our children, our children's children and our beloved planet. Mars reaches 15 degrees Leo marking the August cross-quarter, or the area of the sky marking the half way point between the June Solstice and the September Equinox. This is still engaging the energies of yesterdays timing with Mars and Neptune calling our awareness to the importance of compassionate imagination as a powerful tool in creating a healthier way more fun reality.

Jul 18, Sunday. Moon conjuncts Mars (15 Leo still near the cross-quarter see Jul 17) symbolizing the tenth and final labor of Mars in his current quest for the Holy Grail that began last August 2003. According to Nancy Qualls-Corbet in her book The Sacred Prostitute the Holy Grail symbolizes "the source of new life and strength" through the transformative and regenerative power of the feminine principle. In this phase of the Mars quest, also known as the labors of Mars, the compassionate hero is encountering the challenges arising from the limiting beliefs of the old paradigm that devalued and dishonored the importance of the feminine principle. This has created an imbalance between heaven and earth, spirit and matter, sexuality and spirituality, and masculine and feminine. Awareness of this imbalance is now becoming more and more mainstream through bestselling books such as the novel The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown. The author calls this to our attention when his main character says; *"The ancients envisioned their world in two halves – masculine and feminine. Their gods and goddesses worked to keep a balance of power. Yin and yang. When male and female were balanced, there was harmony in the world. When they were unbalanced, there was Chaos."* The Mars labors are now centered around restoring the balance between the masculine and feminine principle and reclaiming healthy access to the regenerative and transforming power of the feminine already within him when he is open to receive it.

Jul 19, Monday The waxing crescent Moon is just beyond Mercury (24 Leo) and Mars (16 Leo) in the evening sky after sunset drawing our attention to the Leo Mysteries reminding us that the reality of our being is divine, nothing less. Consciously connecting with our inner heart flame, the flame of divine love and acceptance, helps us to remember the pure essence and truth of who we are and why we are here. When Leo energy is healthy it comes from a place of great confidence, courage, and strength trusting that all is in divine order and knowing we are all loved and cherished by the creative life force from whence we emerged into this life. The Leo mysteries remind us *"We Are The Ones We Have Been Waiting For."* ([See July, 2004 Intro](#))

Jul 20, Tuesday. Venus (17 Gemini) squares Jupiter (17 Virgo) and the Moon moves into Virgo just after mid-night Pacific time. One expression for the Virgo archetype is through the mysteries of Spider Woman who weaves the web, or the pattern of life. The web of life includes the process of *...connecting the knowledge of the past with the possibilities of the future. ... "the possibilities for each of us is only limited by our own view of ourselves. Notice that the web constantly grows, outward, still connected to that small center space. It is always reaching, always expanding, never satisfied with the status quo. When something of value gets caught in the web, it is taken back to that small center and utilized; never wasted. It may be stored for later use, but it is never wasted."*
[\[s/totems/spider.htm\]\(#\) The Heyokah Coyote Woman and Rainbow Goddess expressions of Gemini is encountering the Spider Woman Priestess \(Virgo\) who earths and grounds the playful Gemini Goddess as her vision expands and then is grounded in ways that are practical, and useful as well as fun, playful and creative within the sacred pattern of life.](http://www.fortunecity.com/millennium/bertisevil/537/project</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Jul 21, Wednesday. Theoretically Saturn is rising as a morning star this morning joining Venus in the morning sky for the next several months. This means Saturn is rising before the Sun but is only visible right now to those with a low horizon line and clear skies. Once each month the Moon passes through the Virgo domain and currently is connecting with Jupiter who has been traveling in this area of the sky since last August and remains here until the end of September this year. Moon and Jupiter illuminate an inspiring renewal of vision around the mysteries of aligning with the sacred rhythms of life and the importance of each individual role within the sacred web of life. Each thread of the web is essential for healthy functioning of the entire web. When individual strands are damaged or out of pattern Virgo's job is to reweave or repair the damaged parts.. For those with Virgo planets on their chart this is an especially important personal timing for gaining insight and awareness around the evolving Virgo mysteries. Noting where Moon and Jupiter are tonight and last night provides assistance in locating the constellation of the Lion. Jupiter is about midway through this constellation. (See [Difference between Signs and Constellations](#))

Jul 22, Thursday. The Sun enters Leo today where it remains until Aug 23 energizing the King/Queen archetype or the archetypal mysteries that remind of us our true divine nature. In some circles, today is celebrated as Mary Magdalene's Feast Day. Many books such as Margaret Starbird's *The Woman With the Alabaster Jar*, and Sir Laurence Gardner's *The Bloodline of the Holy Grail* and most recently the popular Da Vinci Code novel by Dan Brown provide compelling evidence that brings forth new information about the importance and role of Mary Magdalene who was not only of royal blood lineage, she was also a highly regarded and accomplished Magdalene Priestess who held revered and respected status during her lifetime. Apparently, her status as one who also assured the continuance of the royal bloodline was later seen as a threat to the apostolic succession of leadership in the Catholic Church. This fueled a strategically calculated campaign expressly intent on discrediting the importance of who she was. Currently, there is a growing movement within the Catholic Church to redress the misrepresentation of Mary Magdalene and many are now committed to assisting in reclaiming Mary Magdalene's rightful role as a queen and an apostle, as well as someone who was a visionary and carrier of secret knowledge. There is also evidence to suggest she was a physical embodiment of the Holy Grail. This movement acts as an external symbolic reminder for us all to look at how we can reclaim our own divine heritage and the Holy Grail within us all.

Week of Aug 4 - 10 The Scorpio [First Quarter Moon](#) window is visible July 23, is exact July 24 and completes on July 25. The waxing half full Moon facilitates an experience of visual rapid growth as the Moon increases in light dramatically from now until the Aquarius Full Moon on Jul 31. This is a great time to put our ideas and plans into action.

Jul 23, Friday. Venus (18 Gemini) is moving to oppose Retrograde Pluto (19 Sag) making its last exact opposition in this series of three on July 25. The first was May 2, and the second was June 2. As Stephanie Forest so beautifully articulated in the June 2, 2004 timings.... *Pluto/Venus themes are directing us to ask questions that challenge our belief systems, let go of our addictions to being dependent on anyone or anything, and take back the projections we make onto others that they are more capable, intelligent or powerful than we are. Many of us have done the consciousness work and training already, for decades, and it's time now, more than ever before, to rely, trust and act upon our own glorious intuitive voice. The Pluto/Venus aspect is an Initiation for seekers of consciousness to move forward with co-creating our reality....*

Jul 24, Saturday. The Scorpio [First Quarter Moon](#) (3 Scorpio) is exact tonight around 8:37 pm Pacific Time. This Moon phase signals a rapid acceleration of whatever is emerging in the Scorpio Mysteries at this time. Death, rebirth, regeneration are important aspects of these mysteries as well as a willingness to explore and expand the edges of individual and collective experience. Edgewalking describes a healthy Scorpio approach to life...pushing past the known edges, willing to die to what has been for the opportunity to be born anew in uncharted territory. Conscious Edgewalking seeks out the edges of contemporary beliefs and existing paradigms and willingly moves beyond them. Edgewalking includes being willing to walk beyond the edges of the old while also embracing the unfamiliar edges of new ways of experiencing life. It also includes bridging what has been with what is emerging, allowing death to embrace what no longer serves, creating space for new ideas, new ways, and new experiences to birth. Healthy Scorpio willingly engages the mysteries of death, trusting the process of rebirth like the phoenix diving into the fires of seeming doom and then magically emerging renewed, revitalize, transformed and more empowered than before. The successful fulfillment of this process requires releasing all attachments to outcome.

Jul 25, Sunday. The Mayan day out of time. Today Venus reaches her third and last exact opposition to Pluto this year where ideally she has faced her deepest fears, released her attachments to outcome, and is ready to transform her wounds, through the alchemy of love and compassion, into the medicine she carries - liberating all of her passionate creativity in ways that support a fully realized experience of joyful living. This is the intent or greatest possibility of the Venus Pluto dance over the past couple of months and even if we have only been successful at transforming some of our fears, or none of them, we can still love and accept ourselves and trust the process will continue to unfold as long as we are willing and have compassion for who we are and what we are experiencing.

Jul 26, Monday. Mayan and Egyptian New Year. Marking the Heliacal Rise of Sirius. The Moon moves into Sagittarius tonight emphasizing the quest for truth and meaning, supporting a deepening investigation into our personal truth. Remembering truth is different in different states of awareness and understanding it maybe helpful to notice what Truth you are living? Is what you believe really your essential truth or is it based on what your culture or your family expects you to believe? How has your truth changed, grown and expanded recently? Are you becoming aware that what you once believed is no longer true for you? Does this feel confusing because you

don't know what your truth is now? Are you okay with not knowing? Can you simply be with and trust the evolving process as it unfolds?

Jul 27, Tuesday. Today Mercury (3 Virgo) reaches its Greatest Eastern Elongation from the Sun (5 Leo) in its current evening star appearance meaning it is at the highest point it will reach on the western horizon after Sunset. As Earth based observers Mercury can never be more than 28 zodiacal degrees away from the Sun and in some cycles does not reach more than 16 degrees from the Sun. This Mercury elongation is 27 degrees from the Sun and this week maybe the best time to view Mercury in the current cycle for a direct visual experience and to receive any transmissions coming from Mercury at the literal high point of this cycle. Venus (22 Gemini) is sextiling Mars (22 Leo) although Venus is only visible in the morning sky and Mars is still barely visible low on the western horizon just after Sunset so from a visual standpoint we do not see Venus and Mars together suggesting that the sacred feminine and sacred masculine principle are busily engaging their own personal process independently and yet harmoniously.

South Delta Aquarids Meteors, peaks today, although the entire peak really lasts several days before and after today. Expect about 20 meteors per hour and note that the light of the waxing Moon does interfere so the best time to look is probably after the Moonsets around 10 pm Eastern or 1 am Pacific Time tonight.

Jul 28, Wednesday. Today marks the monthly conjunction of the Moon with Pluto illuminating any repressed shadow sides of truth. This includes the seeming truth that wounds, the truth that accuses, the truth that condemns, the truth that limits a person's experience through guilt, shame or judgment. This usually happens with strict religious truth or cultural truth or any truth based in fear. Can we really know and experience truth when it is operating out of fear and the need to survive, control and dominate? Might not fear-based truth perceptually shift and change when the need to control, or the threat disappears? It might be helpful to notice if your current truth is based in fear or love. Fear-based truth operates through rigid rules and standards designed to control outcomes often carrying harsh punishments or judgments if these rules are transgressed. Then the tendency is to set ourselves up to feel betrayed, or victimized, or self-righteous, if those around us do not live up to these rigid standards. Love-based truth expresses through acceptance and compassion. Love-based truth is not invested in outcomes but rather allows and accepts what IS knowing the only way reality changes is through changing personal perception and beliefs. Self-love and acceptance is a vital key for accessing love-based truth.

Jul 29, Thursday. Last night the waning Moon entered Capricorn crossing the galactic gateway or Hunab Ku as the Mayans called it. This is the area of the sky where the most important symbols are located for this current [Turning of the Ages](#). Hunab Ku as defined by the Mayans is: "the giver of all movement and measure" and is a direct source of energy and information that regulates the flow of life. Currently, the alignment of the Solstices with the Milky Way on the Galactic axis is activating and unlocking our DNA codes and intensifying our personal transformative processes creating new pathways and possibilities. One possibility worth considering is how to more effectively and efficiently live in alignment with our

divine design so what we do and accomplish is supportive, creative, playful, and fun.

Week of Jul 30 – Aug 5. This week features the Aquarius [Full Moon](#). Experientially we see the Moon rising full for three nights, the day before, the day of and the day after the exact Full Moon. Therefore, we experience the potency of the Full Moon Window for three days. Connecting the Moon cycle with the hero/ine's quest as described by Joseph Campbell in his book *Hero With A Thousand Faces* gives us another framework to understand the energy and intent of the Moon phases. Beginning with the New Moon phase as the "Call To Adventure" or is alerting the Hero/ine that an initiatory journey is about to take place. The First Quarter Moon phase represents "crossing the initiatory threshold" into "the zone of magnified power" where the journey or initiation occurs. The Full Moon Phase represents the "Mystical Marriage or Apotheosis" where the goal of the journey is achieved. Apotheosis is the: *Exaltation to divine rank or stature; deification*. This is the phase in the cycle that provides an opportunity to remember and experience our divinity. The Moon then begins to wane this week representing the return journey and integration of the gifts received at the Full Moon for later dissemination one the Return Threshold is crossed at the Last Quarter Moon. Once each year the Moon is Full in Aquarius emphasizing the cosmic overview and the revolutionary cutting edge ideas that bring evolutionary change.

Jul 30, Friday. Moon moves into Aquarius this evening opening the Aquarius Full Moon window and is illuminating the mysteries of the cosmic revolutionary, or the free electron who is committed to their own unique path of self-expression. Also Mars is disappearing from the evening sky and will not be visible again until it rises in the morning sky on October 30. This marks the beginning of the underworld initiation for Mars where the sacred masculine principle has another opportunity to encounter his deepest fears and all the beliefs that keep him from a pure experience of himself. This current Mars cycle that began last Aug 2003 has a particular focus on the greater development of compassion for self and others.

Jul 31, Saturday. Today marks the second Full Moon of this month sometimes referred to as a Blue Moon. The Aquarius Full Moon (9 Aquarius) is occurring in conjunction with dreamy and often illusive Neptune (14 Aquarius). It is interesting that Neptune is linked with this second Full Moon this month due to the confusion around the actual origination of the term Blue Moon. There is a Sky and Telescope article that suggests a true Blue Moon was originally associated with 4 Full Moons in one season. Season here is defined as the time between a Solstice and Equinox or an Equinox and Solstice. In most cases there are only three Full Moons in each season but occasionally there are 4 Full Moons. The last time this occurred was between the September Equinox and the December Solstice in 2002. The next time this occurs is between the June Solstice and September Equinox 2005 with the first Full Moon occurring on June 21, the second on July 6, the third on August 19, and the fourth on September 17. [Sky and Telescope article](#) However, in more recent times the term Blue Moon has also been used to describe the occurrence of two Full Moons in a calendar month. An article appearing in an astronomy magazine in the 1940's is what contributed to the present definition of the second Full Moon in a given month and the Full Moon today marks the second Full Moon this month. The last time we had two Full Moons in a calendar month was October, 2001. The next time

we have two Full Moons in a lunar month is June, 2007. So both of these occurrences are in fact rare occurring about every 2 ½ to three years. However, four Full Moons in a season is of far greater astronomical significance than two Full Moons in a month. This is because our months are not astronomically based on the yearly seasonal cycle or the monthly lunar cycle. Additionally there is also evidence that suggests the term Blue Moon may originate from the bluish tinge the Moon gets when viewed through smoke. In this case, the theory is that someone saw the Moon through the smoke of a rare and distant forest or grass fire, and thus the term Blue Moon was literal. In these three definitions of a Blue Moon, either as seen through smoke, or the number of Full Moons in a season, or two Full Moons in a month, the factor that is common to all three is that these are rare occurrences captivating our imagination. In any case, any Full Moon experience is an opportunity to experience greater illumination of our essential divine nature.

Carolyn is available for [personal readings](#) by [emailing](#) or calling (520) 744-0506 Please visit [The Shamanic Astrology Web Site: www.ShamanicAstrology.com](#) to sign up to receive the free *Celestial Timings* via email.

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Breitenbush HotSprings, Oregon Sep 3 - 6, 2004

Shamanic Astrology meets Shamanic Breathwork

2 Day Intensive Facilitated with Kate Mckee (503) 892-1887
Details coming

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Talk and workshop with Oregon Astrological Association details coming.

Fishlake Valley, Nevada September 19-22, 2004

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Camp conducted at the ancient petroglyph mystery school with Daniel Giamario, Carolyn Brent, Tom Lescher, John Dumas and the Shamanic Astrology staff. [Full details.](#)

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