

August 2018 Celestial Timings

By Cayelin K Castell



Each year on August 2 in Cartago, Costa Rica La Negrita (or the Black Madonna) is honored and celebrated near the Leo cross-quarter. The story of this divine feminine figure describes a small Black Madonna statue found by a young girl in 1635 on a rock near where the town of Cartago is now located.

The statue demonstrated magical powers by always mysteriously returning to the spot where it was first found. Finally a church was built on the spot and La Negrita resides within that church to this day. On August 2 Pilgrims from all over Central America journey to honor her. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cartago, Costa Rica](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cartago,_Costa_Rica)

It is not just in Costa Rica where the Black Madonna and child are venerated. These statues and images are found all over Europe's most holy shrines and cathedrals. Each year, millions of pilgrims ritually humble themselves before the image of Black Mary and child Jesus at Black Madonna sites throughout France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Portugal and more.

It is an under reported fact how much the Black Madonna and Child is one of the most sacred icons of the Catholic Church. In Poland, believers are encouraged to pray to the Black Madonna of Czestochowa every morning before rising. In the June 11, 1979 issue of Time Magazine an article

appeared about Pope Paul II's visit to Czestochowa's holiest shrine, prominently featuring the Black Madonna.

Pilgrims throughout the ages have visited Black Madonna sites and left inspired, confident, relieved, and/or healed of their afflictions. At one time there were 300 documented Black Madonna sites in France alone!

Now is the time to celebrate this powerful expression of the Divine Feminine in one of her many inspired forms!

Read about the August Cross Quarter [HERE](#)

Read about the 8.8 Double Infinity Time Gate [HERE](#)

August Sky

Venus, Jupiter, Saturn and Mars are all shining their light in the evening sky.

According to Sky Walk App for August 1 - Venus is visible in the West after sunset, setting around 9:30 pm. Jupiter is to the upper left of Venus setting around 11:53 pm. Saturn is low in the south rising around 4:55 pm and setting at 2:57 am. A very bright Mars is rising around 7:16 pm and setting at 4:55 am.

By August 21 Venus is visible in the West setting around 8:38 pm. Jupiter is to the upper left of Venus setting around 10:04 pm. Saturn is low in the south rising around 2:53 pm and setting around 1 am. A still very bright Mars is rising around 5 pm and setting at 2:47 am.



Above Nigrita and Child



Mercury conjuncts the Sun on August 8 (see the 8.8 Time Gate) and then rises into the morning sky on August 17, stationing direct on August 18/19 (depending on your time zone) at 11 Leo 32. This also coincides with Mercury's appearance in the morning sky and the beginning of a brand new Mercury cycle emphasizing the Leo Mysteries of Self-Love. It is possible all the ways we do not love ourselves will emerge into our awareness. It is also possible we will find new, inspired ways to experience healthy self-love. Mercury remains in the morning sky until September 11 when it disappears into the underworld beginning an even deeper encounter with our shadow around the mysteries of self-love.

Mercury reaches greatest elongation from the Sun (18°) by August 26. At this time Mercury will be at zero magnitude rising just before 5 AM right after astronomical twilight.

Venus reaches greatest elongation (46° from the Sun) on August 17. However, Venus is fairly low on the horizon dropping from about 20° above the horizon to about 15° by the end of August. Venus is brilliant at -4.3 magnitude brightening to -4.6 magnitude during August far outshining all evening sky planets and stars. Venus is approaching Spica (24 Libra O6) all of August and by the end of the month is 1° below this magical Star, exactly conjunct on Sep 1. Both Spica and Venus are only about 10° above the horizon in Northern Latitudes so may not be easy to see.

This month **Jupiter** is 22° beyond Spica, 25° from Antares where it will be near the end of the year and very close to Zubenelegubi exact on August 16 (within a $1/2^\circ$ North) looking very close for a few days before and after this date. Jupiter is shining at -2.1 magnitude fading to -1.9 during the month of August. **Jupiter** does reach 90° from the Sun (also known as quadrature) on August 6. Although Jupiter is in the sign of Scorpio it is in the constellation of the Scales.

Saturn is slowing in its retrograde motion, getting ready to station direct on September 6. Due to its southern declination Saturn is not very high in the night sky though it is brightening from a +0.2 magnitude to a +0.4 this month. Saturn is in the sign of Capricorn and the Archer (a.k.a teapot) constellation.

Retrograde Mars reached opposition to the Sun on July 27 and was closest to the Earth in 15 years on July 31. Mars remains bright and bigger than it has been since 2003 for all of August rising just after sunset as August begins, while very near its peak magnitude at -2.8 fading to a -2.2 by the end of August. Mars remains brighter than Jupiter for all of August.

The challenge for northern latitudes in seeing Mars is due to its extreme southern declination. On August 28 Mars stations direct. Mars starts the month in Aquarius ending the month in Capricorn. However, due to the difference between signs and constellations retrograde Mars begins August in the constellation of the Goatfish and ends the month in the constellation of the Archer. (see [Video on the Difference Between Signs and Constellations](#))

The Sun is partially eclipsed by the Moon on August 11 across Greenland, northern Europe, most of Russia, and north east Asia.

49 Occultations of Aldebaran coming to an End Sep 2

The waning crescent Moon low in the east on August 6 is catching up to the Hyades and by that night will mark the 48th occultation of the Moon over Aldebaran. September 2, 2018 will end the 49 occultation series that began in January of 2015. This Royal Star - as it was known by the ancients - marks the eye of the Bull near the Galactic Edge and was known as the key to the Silver Gate where souls enter this realm.



These Moon occultations over Aldebaran have been activating and amplifying our DNA codes, intensifying our personal transformative processes creating new pathways and possibilities magnified and accelerated 47 times so far and is about to magnified a 48th time in this second to last occultation – with a similar effect to an eclipse and happening within the last days of this extra-long eclipse window that began last month. The Moon has occulted Aldebaran 47 times since January of 2015 intensifying and magnifying the power of the Silver Gate as a portal into the greater mysteries. By now we have greater access to these possibilities if we choose to engage it.

The Earth is aligned now in such a way to receive the galactic radiations being beamed from the Galactic Edge quickening our evolution, purifying and restructuring our world, changing the thresholds of vibration and experience, according to new programs of Light and Love available to us now. With the Moon occulting and transmitting from the Silver Gate near the Galactic Edge, we get a sense of the importance of the light codes coming in from this star gate that are waking up our own light codes in ever greater waves of possibility.

The waning crescent Moon is around 10° to the right of Venus on August 13 and 7° above Venus on August 14 the waxing gibbous Moon shines less than 4° to the right of Saturn on August 20. The waxing Moon is about 9° to the upper right of Mars on August 22 and then 8° to the upper left of Mars the following night. See Moon Phases Calendar on page 9.

The Perseid meteor shower peaks on August 12 featuring ideal conditions for observing this meteor shower depending on weather. The waxing New Moon sets early in the evening leaving dark skies for the meteor shower.

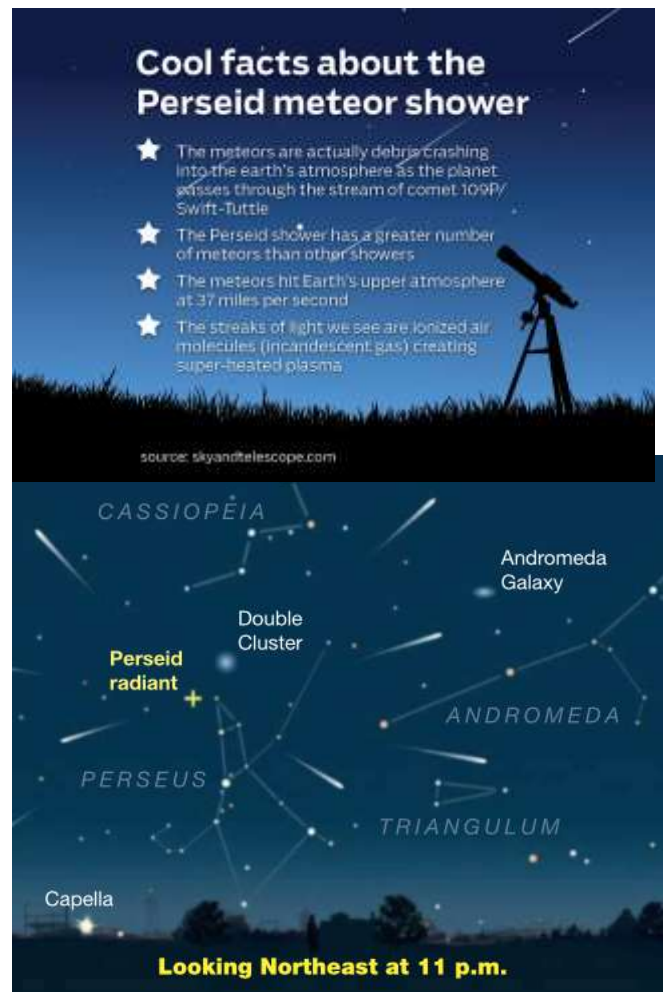
The Perseids meteor shower comes to us from comet 109P/Swift-Tuttle discovered by Louis Swift and Horace Tuttle as it approached perihelion in July 1862, so was quite stunning to observe at that time. This comet has a 133 year orbital period and last visited the inner Solar System in 1992 so we have another 107 years before it is so close to the Earth.

However there are outbursts that happen from time to time and the next one is predicted to happen in the year 2028. It is important to note this meteor shower even though not the most extraordinary it can be this year - is still impressive. Especially under dark skies it is possible to see as many as 50 meteors streak across the sky in an hour.

In 2018, if you have good weather this could be one of the best meteor showers this summer. The meteor shower usually begins mid-July and lasts until around August 24 with the peak time occurring early morning on August 12 and 13.

Comet 21P/Giacobini-Zinner

It may be possible to have a naked eye observation of comet 21P/Giacobini-Zinner. This comet was seen first by Michel Giacobini on Dec 20, 1900. German astronomer Ernst Zinner observed this comet again in October, 1913 determining its period to be 6.6 years rather than 6.8 years originally calculated.



This comet came into visual range in late June, 2018 with the best time for naked eye observance starting in August 2018. The comet reaches its closest approach to the Earth in September. On the nights of September 3 and 4 the comet is about 1° from the bright star Capella marking the outer edge of the Sacred Hoop.



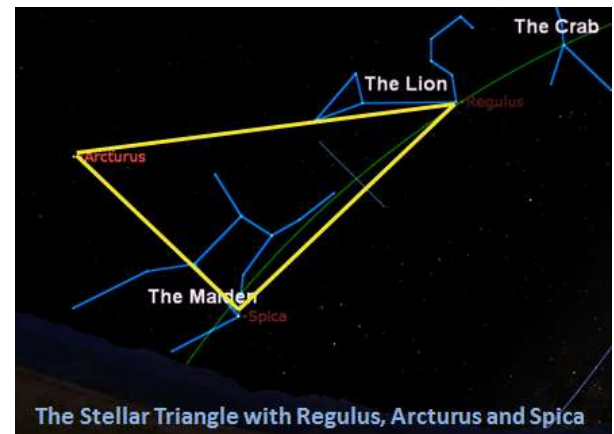
Heliacal Rise of Sirius

Every year Sirius disappears from the evening sky in May, conjuncts the Sun around the 5th or 6th of July emerging in the morning sky sometime in early August depending on your location. It is during the months of late July, August and September the influence of Sirius is considered to be most impactful. To many ancient cultures the reason this was such an important time had to do with the seasonal time when Sirius was leaving the sky, traveling with the Sun, and then reappearing before the Sun in the morning sky currently happening around the time of the Cross-Quarter. In Arizona the rise of Sirius is calculated to be August 8.

There are sacred sites around the world built to capture the rising or setting of certain stars. The Washington, D.C. capitol is one (primarily aligned with Sirius), as is Rennes-le-Chateau, in France, and many other sites around the world. The location of Rennes-le-Chateau corresponds to the 72-degree position of the Sun rise from true North that takes place on **August 15** as described by John K. Young, Ph.D. in his book, *Sacred Sites of the Knights Templar, Ancient Secrets Hidden in Stonehenge, Rennes-le-Chateau and Santiago De Compostela*.

Rennes-le-Chateau is at the perfect latitude to capture the sunrise line pointing to the **Stellar Triangle**,* and to align with at least five other sites at 72 degree angles, as part of perfectly formed, five-pointed star on the land - with each point exactly 72 degrees apart from each other. Many feel this site was purposely chosen as a sacred connection between Earth and Sky and on August 15 the Sun illuminates the point of the star located at Rennes-le-Chateau.

***A note about The Stellar Triangle:** John Young points out that Regulus forms a perfect 30-60-90 degree right triangle with two other prominent stars in the sky. These stars are Spica (in the constellation of the Virgin Priestess) and Arcturus (in the constellation of Bootes). Young suggests that the Feast Day of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary was most likely chosen because of the stellar connection of Regulus with Spica and Arcturus, and its connection to the Sun rise location of 72 degrees North at certain northern latitudes occurring around August 15. Venus is with Spica from August 25 to September 8 and again in October to December due to its retrograde.



Another possibility is August 15 was the date the Sun (Son) was in the constellation of the Priestess (Mary). This constellation was being assumed by the Sun or Son representing the assumption or ascension of Mother Mary. The date this happens now is in October due to the movement of one degree every 72 years.

More on the Stellar Triangle

August 15 is the Feast Day Celebration of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary <http://www.wf-f.org/Assumption.html>. This day may have been chosen as a holy day because it was originally connected to ancient Virgin cults that preceded the story of the Virgin Mary (the original meaning of virgin meant not married or whole unto one's self).

Some speculate this day was chosen because of the sunrise location 72 degrees North of East at certain northern latitudes occurring around August 15. In *The Secret Architecture of Our Nation's Capito, The Masons and the Building of*

Washington, D.C. David Ovason concluded that George Washington, L'Enfant and Ellicot (the designers of Washington DC) sought to align the primary buildings with certain stars knowing the powerful combination of the celestial and earthly alignments (As Above, So Below) would affect its Destiny.

“A city that is laid out in such a way that it is in harmony with the heavens is a city in perpetual prayer. It is a city built on the recognition that every human activity is in need of the sanctification of the spiritual world, where the symbol is the light of the living stars.”

All this is to say, the Sun and stellar connections now occurring were and are important, and we can align our awareness with the Sun on August 15 to receive further information.

Uranus and Mercury Retrograde

Mercury went Retrograde July 25/26 at 23 Leo 27 depending on your time Zone and goes direct on August 18/19 at 11 Leo 32. Uranus (2 Taurus 34) retrogrades on the August 7 at the precise cross-quarter remaining retrograde until January 6, 2019 stationing direct at 28 Aries 26.

The next time we have Uranus and Mercury Retrograde in and even closer retrograde configuration is 2023 when Mercury goes retrograde at 22 Virgo on August 23, 2023 and Uranus goes retrograde at 23 Taurus on August 28 meaning they will be trining one another. In 2018 they are not in close aspect during the retrograde time having been square one another on June 30.

Retrograde planets provide a wondrous time for deepening our inner experience in connection with the planets that are retrograde. This suggests retrograde planets draw our attention inward and planets in direct motion are often more externally referenced. This is not a black and white conclusion rather something to note in your own experience. It also does not mean retrograde or direct is better than its opposite direction. It is all important in the journey of the soul over time.

Have you been having unexpected events occur in your life (either from the inside out - or the outside in - meaning experiences that have been triggered by outside events) that are expanding your point of view, how you think and what you communicate?

Perhaps you have noticed when Mercury is retrograde technical issues tend to increase? When you throw Uranus into that mix it can heighten the technological challenges, deepening our inner journey regardless of how aware we are of what is happening or not happening.

The retrograde inner journey for Mercury and Uranus is designed to take us toward unusual, out of the box, personal insights and aha's about our life journey. This is often most noticeable in hindsight sometimes after these planets have stationed direct.

Both Uranus and Mercury are known to ask "Why" or "Why Not"?

Why am I doing this? Why am I NOT doing the things I love and care about?

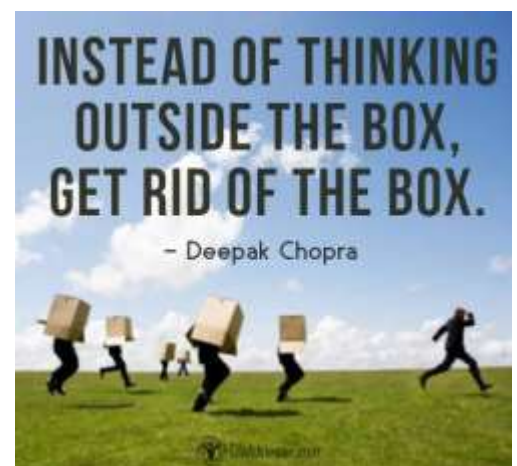
Why do I care or NOT care about a project, person, situation?

Why am I here? Why can't I figure out my purpose?

Why NOT choose something different?

Why Vote? Why NOT Vote? Why Bother? (Our every action is a vote for the reality we are creating.)

Why Question my Reality? Better yet: Why NOT question my reality?



Uranus Says:

The one thing we know for sure - is we don't know anything for sure
Breakdown to Breakthrough
Revolution for Evolution
Question Authority
Question Everything

Mercury is known for:

Being the Trickster
The Transformational Messenger (amped up even more when Uranus is involved)
Influencing our Perception of Reality
How we Communicate

The Power of Questions

Questions lead to answers - so another great question to ask during this time is "What's next?" Often the answer is unexpected when we are open to *out of the ordinary* possibilities. Being with these and other questions during the retrograde time can be highly productive and insightful. The best strategy here is to take time to BE with your questions, be curious, entertain possibilities, take time to consider actions - rather than impulsively taking action.

Delaying important decisions that require action until after August 18/19 **IS** highly recommended if at all possible. If you can delay important decisions until after August 30 that is even better – because it is when Mercury passes the retrograde degree of 23 Leo.

However, if you find yourself needing to decide something NOW and its not a clear and easy decision then contact your inner knowing, the part of you that knows and operates beyond the realm of logic and reason. Ask from your inner knowing place what the most supportive and beneficial choice is for you?

If you feel challenged in accessing your inner knowing then there is always the crazy Mercury/Uranus solution of tossing a coin. Being faced with an actual choice could help you to access how you feel about it one way or another.

For example, if your coin toss says YES go in this direction and you seize up on any level, physically, mentally or emotionally around carrying out that choice, you have just tapped into some really good information, helping you realize you probably really don't want to go there. OR if the coin toss says NO and you feel disappointed it might mean the answer is really a YES.

In a sense the coin toss is another way to ask the part of you that knows. If you truly are ambivalent but need to make a decision - then the coin toss will help you pick something and act on it. You can always make a change later if needed.

Keep in mind there are NO mistakes. Some choices may be more fun and easier to engage than others. Some choices have options that are challenging no matter what we choose. The thing to remember is we always have the opportunity to learn from whatever we do.

The August 11 North Node Partial Solar Eclipse closes the month long eclipse portal providing an opportunity to plant and nurture seeds of self-love and self-acceptance as described by Ken Keyes in one of his books including; *The Handbook to Higher Consciousness*, *The Prescriptions for Happiness*, and *A Conscious Person's Guide to Relationships*.

...we are always loveable
and the world has a place for us
exactly as we are.



Always accept and love your self –
without conditions
without judgments
without condemning
without hiding.
We are OK the way we are –
even with our attachments.

We won't be "better"
if we reprogram our addictive models.
It's just that we'll enjoy our lives
much more when we do.

August 13 an important day in Mayan and Other Cosmologies

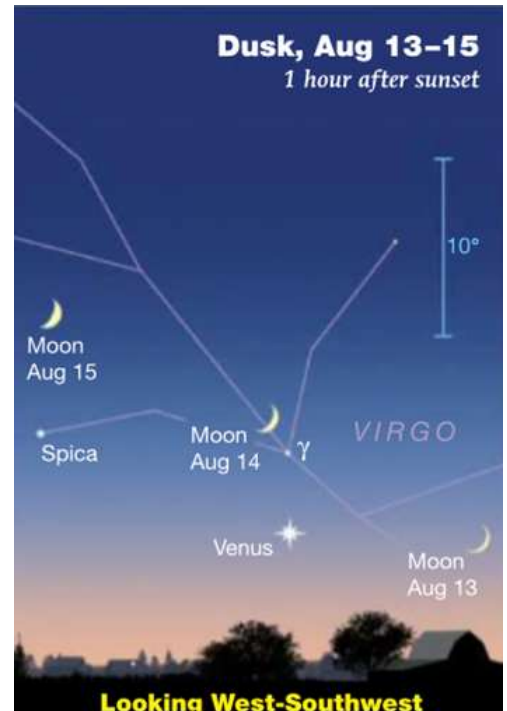
August 13, 3114 BC is as precise and accurate as one can get for beginning recorded history. The first Egyptian dynasty is dated to ca 3100 BC; the first city, Uruk, in Mesopotamia is dated around ca 3100 BC; the Hindu Kali Yuga, 3102 BC; and most interestingly, the division of time into 24 hours of 60 minutes each and each minute into 60 seconds [and the division of the circle into 360 degrees], occurred around 3100 BC, in Sumeria.

Plus, at 14 degrees and 48 minutes North Latitude in the Maya world on August 13 a Solar Zenith occurs. This means the Sun is located directly overhead at Noon and no shadows are cast for this latitude only.

<http://www.authenticmaya.com/calendar.htm>

In the current era, toward dawn on Aug 13, the constellation Orion moves toward the zenith and the Milky Way is almost erect. At sunset on February 5, the sky is identical to the August 13 dawn.

<http://members.shaw.ca/mjfinley/creation.html>



This is a great time to connect with the Sun and tune into whatever might be next for you still within the New Moon Window?



2018 August Celestial Timings Dates and Time

Aug 1 2018	Moon	00°Ar00' D	Enters	Aries	00°Ar00' D	3:54:17 AM	PDT
	Moon	02°Ar06' D	Conjunct	Chiron	02°Ar06' R	7:59:12 AM	PDT
Aug 3 2018	Moon	00°Ta00' D	Enters	Taurus	00°Ta00' D	12:50:47 PM	PDT
Aug 4 2018	Moon	12°Ta19' D	Square	Sun	12°Le19' D	11:17:54 AM	PDT
Aug 5 2018	Moon	00°Ge00' D	Enters	Gemini	00°Ge00' D	6:31:32 PM	PDT
Aug 6 2018	Moon	10°Ge03' D	Conjunct	Aldebaran	10°Ge03' D	11:45:05 AM	PDT
	Venus	00°Li00' D	Enters	Libra	00°Li00' D	4:27:22 PM	PDT
Aug 7 2018	Moon	21°Ge12' D	Conjunct	Bellatrix	21°Ge12' D	6:29:27 AM	PDT
Aug 7 2018	Moon	22°Ge07' D	Conjunct	Capella	22°Ge07' D	8:00:16 AM	PDT
	Moon	29°Ge00' D	Conjunct	Beleguese	29°Ge00' D	7:23:04 PM	PDT
	Moon	00°Cn00' D	Enters	Cancer	00°Cn00' D	9:00:45 PM	PDT
Aug 8 2018	Sun	16°Le28' D	Conjunct	Mercury RX	16°Le28' R	7:05:49 PM	PDT
Aug 9 2018	Moon	20°Cn30' D	Conjunct	Castor	20°Cn29' D	6:08:21 AM	PDT
	Moon	23°Cn28' D	Conjunct	Pollux	23°Cn28' D	10:53:11 AM	PDT
	Moon	26°Cn02' D	Conjunct	Procyon	26°Cn02' D	2:58:52 PM	PDT
	Moon	00°Le00' D	Enters	Leo	00°Le00' D	9:17:30 PM	PDT
Aug 10 2018	Moon	05°Le55' D	Conjunct	N Node	05°Le55' D	6:40:27 AM	PDT
	Moon	14°Le53' D	Conjunct	Mercury	14°Le53' R	8:54:06 PM	PDT
Aug 11 2018	New Moon	18°Le42' D	Eclipse			2:57:38 AM	PDT
	Moon	00°Vi05' D	Conjunct	Regulus	00°Vi05' D	9:06:22 PM	PDT
Aug 12 2018	Mars	00°Aq00' R	Conjunct	Capricorn	00°Aq00' D	7:13:42 PM	PDT
Aug 13 2018	Moon	00°Li00' D	Conjunct	Libra	00°Li00' D	9:56:58 PM	PDT
	Moon	21°Vi52' D	Conjunct	Denebola	21°Vi52' D	8:26:33 AM	PDT
Aug 14 2018	Moon	07°Li47' D	Conjunct	Venus	07°Li47' D	11:05:20 AM	PDT
Aug 15 2018	Moon	24°Li06' D	Conjunct	Spica	24°Li06' D	3:22:43 PM	PDT
Aug 16 2018	Moon	00°Sc00' D	enters	Scorpio	00°Sc00' D	1:54:03 AM	PDT
	Jupiter	15°Sc20' D	Conjunct	Zubenelgenubi	15°Sc20' D	1:22:09 PM	PDT
Aug 17 2018	Moon	15°Sc20' D	Conjunct	Zubenelgenubi	15°Sc20' D	5:57:36 AM	PDT
	Moon	15°Sc25' D	Conjunct	Jupiter	15°Sc25' D	6:05:44 AM	PDT
	Moon	19°Sc38' D	Conjunct	Zubenelshamali	19°Sc38' D	1:59:38 PM	PDT
Aug 18 2018	1 st Quarter	25°Sc20' D	Square	Sun	25°Le20' D	12:48:26 AM	PDT
	Moon	00°Sg00' D	enters	Sagittarius	00°Sg00' D	9:44:50 AM	PDT
Aug 19 2018	Moon	10°Sg01' D	Conjunct	Antares	10°Sg01' D	5:13:40 AM	PDT
Aug 20 2018	Moon	00°Cp00' D	Enters	Capricorn	00°Cp00' D	9:00:22 PM	PDT
Aug 21 2018	Moon	02°Cp45' D	Conjunct	Saturn	02°Cp45' R	2:33:04 AM	PDT
Aug 22 2018	Moon	19°Cp07' D	Conjunct	Pluto	19°Cp07' R	11:45:34 AM	PDT
	Sun	00°Vi00' D	enters	Virgo/Regulus	00°Vi00' D	9:08:29 PM	PDT
Aug 23 2018	Moon	28°Cp43' D	Conjunct	Mars	28°Cp43' R	7:18:52 AM	PDT
	Moon	00°Aq00' D	enters	Aquarius	00°Aq00' D	9:55:26 AM	PDT
Aug 25 2018	Moon	00°Pi00' D	enters	Pisces	00°Pi00' D	10:32:16 PM	PDT
Aug 26 2018	Full Moon	03°Pi12' D	Opposite	Sun	03°Vi12' D	4:56:05 AM	PDT

	Moon	04°Pi08' D	Conjunct	Fomalhaut	04°Pi08' D	6:46:04 AM	PDT
Aug 27 2018	Moon	15°Pi23' D	Conjunct	Neptune	15°Pi23' R	5:03:52 AM	PDT
Aug 28 2018	Moon	00°Ar00' D	enters	Aries	00°Ar00' D	9:35:05 AM	PDT
	Moon	01°Ar14' D	Conjunct	Chiron	01°Ar14' R	11:57:58 AM	PDT
Aug 30 2018	Moon	00°Ta00' D	enters	Taurus	00°Ta00' D	6:30:08 PM	PDT

A Very Special Event October 26 to 28

at the University of Earth near Graeagle, California (about an hour from Reno, Nevada) **No Previous Knowledge of Astrology Is Necessary!**

This is a fun interactive course revealing how the Birth Archetypes and Elements are manifesting in your life and how you can enhance their co-creative power. You will learn how to utilize these energies along with the astrological modalities (Serving Others, Serving Self or Serving Spirit) as a way to better understand yourself and others.



The Elements and Modalities are the master key to understanding ALL the archetypes and our own intended life expression.

This will help you to more deeply understand your strengths and gifts, as well as challenges or obstacles you may encounter around your ability to create the life you desire.

These mysteries powerfully support you in expanding your co-creative capacity in every aspect of your life including your creative expression, work in the world, relationships, etcetera.

In addition to the interactive exercises on each element we will also explore the combinations of elements and how best to make the most of the gifts they offer you. Some combinations are more challenging so we will also explore practices designed to get them all working together to maximize your creative power.

This Co-creating with the Elements event will deepen your understanding of yourself and others in your life, with powerful tools for being an even more conscious co-creator!

Just \$490.00 includes Food And Lodging for the Weekend (Special \$440.00 for SAMS Gold and Platinum Members)

Primary Facilitator: Cayelin Castell

Co-Facilitating: Members of the SAMS Council

Moon Phases for August 2018

 LAST QUARTER	 NEW MOON
August 4 18:18 UT	August 11 09:58 UT
 FIRST QUARTER	 FULL MOON
August 18 07:48 UT	August 26 11:56 UT
DISTANCES	
Perigee 358,078 km	August 10, 18 ^h UT Diameter 33' 22"
Apogee 405,746 km	August 23, 11 ^h UT Diameter 29' 27"