

## **Leo New Moon: August 1, 2008**

**By Barbara Hand-Clow**

The political direction of our world changed fundamentally under the influence of the Cancer New Moon and the Full Moon in Capricorn during July! This switch is world shaking, and so I must begin by summarizing the many stressful and hopeful signs that we can see. A new world is emerging in which many individuals are feeling the planet as a whole, not as just a place that unfairly favors the rich over the poor. Intentional peace and joy on our beautiful, green planet is precipitating down into our dimension from higher worlds. As you may know, I predicted back in 2006 in *The Mayan Code: Time Acceleration and Awakening the World Mind* that significant moves toward peace would be occurring this summer—that is, if Carl Calleman's time-acceleration theory is actually guiding evolution. He seems to be right about his interpretation of the Mayan Calendar: we are now moving into the Fourth World of the Galactic Underworld (on August 15, 2008), and the human collective mind has radically shifted its perspective. [See Chapter 7 of *The Mayan Code*.]

Regarding things right now, the July New Moon indicated that a critical number of us would begin to really focus on the survival of our species. During July, many people were turning away from fuel-inefficient vehicles. New gas hogs were piling up unsold at the dealerships, which has forced the Ford Motor Company, for example, to begin retooling SUV and truck factories for the manufacture of smaller and fuel-efficient vehicles. Many people were selling these hogs for anything they could get and turning to smaller cars, bikes, and electric scooters. People went back to using their public transportation systems, while the Post Office and school bus networks reorganized their routes to save fuel. The amount of gas being used in the USA went down for the first time in the history of the automobile. With so many people changing their habits, the business world realized it had to change quickly. Of course, because the US economy is based on ever-increasing growth, it is in big trouble.

In the July New Moon, I discussed several notable configurations that would structure these trends, while I focused on Mars in Virgo. Mars was moving into a conjunction with Saturn in Virgo (exact on July 10), which would be the completion of a major Mars configuration during the Summer Solstice that had the potential to tip the balance toward peace this summer. (During the Solstice, Mars was opposite Chiron/Neptune on the lunar North Node, and Uranus in Pisces sextiling Jupiter in Capricorn formed a Yod to Mars in Leo on the lunar South Node.) See the reading for the Solstice for more understanding about this configuration, since it seems to be a magic wand that is generating a great wave of peacefulness this summer. As I've said many times, peace will probably come when the US economy falters and short-circuits the agenda of America as Empire; this is why I'm analyzing the troubled economy in such detail.

Also I want you to know that I had great difficulty writing and publishing my July readings for the New and Full Moons. Now that these aspects have passed, I can tell you that the Cancer New Moon chart showed an exceedingly high probability that greater warfare could break out during the July 10 Mars/Saturn conjunction, and the pressure would continue until a bit past the July 18 Full Moon.

I decided last month not to speak about potential warfare because it can be unwise to energize such thoughts. After all, our minds do create our reality! I could see that if an outbreak into greater war could just be avoided during July 2008, then the world could turn to peacemaking. The Mayan Code posits that the Middle East has become a dualistic vortex that is generating great violence in the world. To avoid energizing this ancient conflict, I made myself into the joker-and attempted to deflate these potentials by joking about male erectile dysfunction (EDS) as the actual cause of war. The very day after the New Moon, talk of EDS was all over the news! Somebody discovered that the activating chemical in Viagra is in watermelons, and men were shown lining up to buy big quantities on the news! As you will see in the next paragraph, the President of Iran pulled off a hysterical stunt with the ultimate phallic symbol, ballistic missiles; this was not quite so simple or so funny.

During the first week in July, as the Mars/Saturn conjunction was building energy, a series of wild events began playing out: The Bush Neocons were attempting to push a bill through Congress (H. Con. Res. 362) that would authorize an economic Blockade of Iran, which would certainly trigger an Iranian response, since many countries are fearful about their food supplies. Meanwhile, rumors were rife that Israel was going to bomb nuclear plants in Iran, believing that the USA would back them, since it had so quickly rushed weapons to Israel when it bombed Lebanon in 2006. Iran's President announced that Iran would bomb back if they were attacked. Amidst this tension, oil was pushing \$150 per barrel, and rumors were flying around of coming US bank failures and weak capitalization in mortgage finance. As the Full Moon was building, Iran's President Ahmadinejad-on the very day of the Mars/Saturn conjunction-released photos of nine ballistic missiles shooting off, and he said they'd use them if Iran were attacked. Frankly, I didn't think we would make it through this confrontation.

But the next day, defense analysts announced that Iran had faked the missile launchings. Partly due to this crazy scenario as well as oil at \$147 threatening the world economy, nobody bombed anybody! I was ecstatic because as an astrologer, I knew that a potentially horrible moment had passed. Like Goliath not being able to even see David, this wild stunt probably stopped the Israelis right in their tracks, maybe permanently. Mars conjunct Saturn was past, and if we made it through the Full Moon without an attack, a turn toward peace was possible in August.

The world just suddenly changed as if God snapped his fingers and the angels are winking at all of us. From the Mars/Saturn conjunction through the Full Moon, astonishing events took place. What's the hard evidence? Syria began having direct talks with Israel. Lebanon formed a new government that made a key exchange possible, and Israel held a day of mourning when the bodies of two Israeli soldiers killed in the recent war in Lebanon were brought to Israel, as the remains of nearly 200 Lebanese and Palestinian fighters were returned to Beirut.

This moving exchange may be the beginning of peace in the Middle East. The photographs of the wives and mothers and father of the dead soldiers were awesome. Israel cut a ceasefire with Hamas as well as dealt with Hezbollah for the prisoner exchange.

Then, suddenly and miraculously, the US totally shifted its position toward Iran and the whole 'axis of evil"! Negotiators were hastily sent out to talk to North Korean and Iranian officials; the US was now talking with its designated enemies. This means the world is winding down war and aggression, and more quickly than we can imagine. The facts are, as oil pushed \$150 a barrel, Ahmadinejad of Iran was smiling all the way down to the bank, while banks and mortgage firms in the US were developing significant cracks; Goliath has fallen by his own weight. Next, the day after the Mars/Saturn conjunction, a major US bank, IndyMac, failed, and people lined up for their money, just like during the Great Depression. And, rumors of impending food shortages are inspiring radical change. For example, an alliance of small countries with China and India has stopped the last round of WTO tariffs that would have taken more food management away from Third World countries and put it under the control of First World countries. When people get hungry, it's obvious who would be eating steak.

Right after the Full Moon, the poor condition of the largest US mortgage lenders, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, became apparent, so the Congress rushed a banking bill through the Congress and Senate to avoid an American and world-wide crash. This was amazing because House Republicans mostly opposed this bill, which Bush had already said he would sign. With so little time or energy left for the Neocons to threaten Iran, tensions cooled in the Middle East. Meanwhile, in case these things sound like bad news to you, all kinds of really great things were also happening. They are so numerous and more are coming in so fast that all I can do is mention a few.

Suddenly many new developments for alternative fuels were coming forth; big cars were getting dumped for small cars, bikes, and tennis shoes; and, best of all, really bad and evil men were getting caught and exposed: Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe caved in to public pressure, and his rival in the recent contested election will be his vice-president. The Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic (who massacred nearly 8,000 Bosnian men and boys) was captured. This is very significant regarding the Mayan Calendar, since the war in Bosnia kicked off the Galactic Underworld back in 1999. The International War Crimes Tribunal will try Karadzic, who was having a ball during the Galactic Underworld acceleration living openly in the guise of a New Age medicine man! The world is going to need this global court while it struggles to turn away from the wars, murder, and barbarity that were created during the development of civilization of the National and Planetary Underworlds; examples need to be made out of these monsters.

Many of you probably also have the Iraq War in mind? As I write this column, Iraq is again collapsing into civil war, and it has been announced that US soldiers killed unarmed civilians last month. Well, I have found evidence that this war, which has gone on longer than WW II, is just about to end.

As many of you know, Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki has announced publicly that he wants the Americans to leave, and Barack Obama and George Bush talk openly of troop withdrawals. Stuningly, on July 26, 2008, the New York Times published three graphic Iraq War photographs in a story about the attempted ban of photographer Zoriah Miller's courageous work. The US has gone way beyond censorship by consistently blocking combat photos, as well as photos of the coffins of returning dead soldiers. This ban on visuals has caused the war to be unreal for most Americans. If you can recall the War in Vietnam, it ended when the graphic photos of the My Lai Massacre sickened the American public. The photos published July 26 of bloodied dead American soldiers in the field and one shot dead in a Falluga house, and a little Iraqi girl whose parents were just killed by American fire are heartbreaking and gut wrenching. I hope this will cause Americans to feel the pain of war and to demand a pullout of the troops.

Now we are moving into the prophesized zone for peace. Considering the great turn of events during July, we must consider the August 1 New Moon in Leo very carefully. On August 15, when the Fourth World of the Galactic Underworld opens, the seeds of peace will be planted on Earth from the higher dimensions because the fields have been so well prepared by all these events. The synchronicity of astrology and the Mayan Calendar suggests that the seeds of peace will be planted during the August 1 New Moon, and then will germinate up to and through the Full Moon on August 16. These seeds will germinate and sprout up through the Full Moon with great force because both the New Moon and the Full Moon are also eclipses! Wow! So, let us examine the New Moon looking for clues for how to bring about this Great Work. Remember, peace will only come to us if we create it in our hearts and then spread it out from ourselves into our personal circles, our communities, and our world. You have to begin by realizing that peace on Earth is possible. Wipe away your old limited conclusions this month. What does this chart show us about what you can do?

The New Moon in 10 Leo is a total solar eclipse with Mercury and Venus in Leo right close by the Sun as it is obscured by the Moon. With these planets, the Moon, and the lunar South Node in Leo, we will feel like grasping for what we each want. Yet, while the Sun is obscured, we find we can let go of our personal desires for the greater good. No matter, we will be very full of ourselves and want to just take anything we desire. Yet, the eclipse will influence us to surrender to the greater needs of the whole and just flow with our personal desires. This ballsy mood will be expressed through love of healing and inspiration by spirit because Venus in Leo is opposite Neptune/Chiron in Aquarius on the lunar North Node. More exactly, we will be screaming for what we want while discovering the only way to get it is to utilize our spiritual and healing powers.

This eclipse-accompanied by Mercury, which is inside Earth, and Venus, which is just outside Earth-is exceedingly intriguing. It will bring out the best in many people-yet many people will just feel crazy because they are afraid their instinctual urges won't be allowed. Seeking an image for this conundrum, I conjured up an interesting plot in my mind: These days, the owners of Hummers are really frustrated because they can't afford the gas to drive around in their personal tanks, which they can't sell because nobody wants them. Well, maybe the US government should buy them at bargain basement prices and ship them over to Iraq or Saudi Arabia!

What I'm hinting at is this powerful lunar force-to have what you want in a world- is suddenly running out of gas, which may transmute human desires to a higher level. You are going to want peace in your families, health, and the end to wasteful conflict as your top priorities.

Chiron is exactly on the lunar North Node during this solar eclipse, and Neptune is close to Chiron and exactly opposite Venus in Leo. As we've been seeing for months, the pathway out of the violence and pain is coming from female healing, and you will be seeing women (or the feminine within yourself) developing in amazing ways this month. Your ingenuity comes to the forefront during difficult times, and this wonderful human ability will be the cause of great change, because Uranus in Pisces quincunxes Venus in Leo. The spiritually-transformative powers of Uranus will be deeply expressive by means of the feminine this month, and the trigger for needed changes is going to be rising opposition to war from many quarters. Uranus in Pisces opposes Mars in Virgo, the Mars placement that is inspiring the move to negotiations instead of wider war. Mars also trines wise and grounded Jupiter in Capricorn, which means negotiators and politicians will be surprised by how much ground they can cover. Meanwhile, time acceleration during the Galactic Underworld is so sped up now that people in positions of power may find they can't even remember what they were all fighting about in the first place! As men and women of power carry out actions that are more in line with what the people want, they will be encouraged by support and good feelings. They will remember they have a heart.

Pluto is retrograding back closer and closer to the Galactic Center, which is flooding our planet with cosmic input that lifts human spirits and inspires the mind of Gaia. Pluto widely squares Uranus in Pisces, activating spiritual transformation in a reluctant world. To summarize, there is great stress in the New Moon Chart between the personal and transpersonal realms, and the stellium in Leo will drive each one of us to go beyond ourselves, to fundamentally change our values. There will be maximal evolutionary pressure to change our very own species, and great individual struggles to feel good and be positive. We will almost feel like we'd rather change the world even if we have to die doing it. This is a better path than the path of the warrior, which is to kill and die for what your leader commands.

To be truthful, this lunar cycle will probably be very disorienting in light of just how much change is going on, added to how much has to happen fast. How intense this will be is apparent in the Full Moon lunar eclipse chart for August 16, so we will have a look at it in order to anticipate what we can expect. During the August Full Moon, there will be two groups of planets (stelliums) situated on the lunar nodes, which means they are in opposition. This sets the intensity meter at 100 degrees! Some of you may know that the police always put on extra employees during the Full Moon? During this one they should double the force. On one side of the opposition, Chiron is exact on the lunar North Node in 19 Aquarius, and Neptune in 23 Aquarius is combust the Full Moon in 24 Aquarius. Opposing this Aquarian stellium, the lunar South Node in 19 Leo opposes the North Node/Chiron, while eclipsed Moon/Neptune opposes the Sun in Leo.

Then close to the Sun in Leo we have Saturn in 10 Virgo, Mercury in 11 Virgo, and Venus in 13 Virgo, and Mars in 28 Virgo opposed by Uranus in 22 Pisces. Whew! All karmic issues will be on the table.

What does this mean? It means that while your feelings and thoughts are shifting away from conflict as you learn how to cooperate, the tension between finding your spiritual and healing path is in maximum stress with your old sense of self. You will wonder how you can use order and structure to receive others and express yourself clearly. This is a set-up for the maximal level of change in each person. As you change, everybody will be changing around you as if you are stuck in a pinball machine with too many balls being shot off-ping!

Yet, from a cosmic perspective, a powerful new platform of cosmic order will formulate during the Full Moon with Mars in Virgo exact square Pluto on the Galactic Center. This square will lock in a wider perspective into the mind of each person, because Pluto also trines the Sun in Leo and sextiles the Moon in Aquarius. As this cosmic platform locks into the Earth plane, a great knowing and remembering of the Goddess will till the soil of our planet with Jupiter in 13 Capricorn exactly trining Venus in Virgo. The change is coming folks, and the only question is whether you will resist and fight or just surrender and flow. In this case, nothing but surrender will actually work. If all else fails, go out and lie on the beach all day on August 16, 2008. I will be meditating while Gerry is teaching in Bellingham, WA.