

# Summer Schools

In 2004 our unofficial Rosicrucian Fellowship healing prayer group in Madison, Wisconsin decided to host a one week summer school for students and friends of the Rosicrucian philosophy living in Wisconsin and the Midwest. The effort proved to be a success in the eyes of both the attendees and the presenters so we have continued to the present. Since that first year students have come from all parts of the United States.

The format was, and is, simple. We offer four or five talks per day for each of the five weekdays. For summer schools presentations are limited to some part of the Rosicrucian philosophy and presenters must be affiliated with the Rosicrucian Fellowship.

I have been one of the presenters every year. When preparing for the first summer school it seemed a good idea to develop one topic in the Rosicrucian philosophy for the week rather than to speak to many different topics and that is what I have done every year. Since many students are also interested in spiritual astrology, five astrology talks are also presented each year. The astrology talks are meant to be parallel to the philosophy talks on the same topic to augment and elaborate the philosophy talks. In some cases there is as much or more philosophy in the astrology talks as there is in the philosophy talks. The following paragraphs are descriptions of the summer school series of philosophy and supplementary astrology talks.

## **2004 Building the Soul Body — Astrology and the Vital Body**

In this first series I decided to address the most important practical application of the Rosicrucian philosophy. Our work is to prepare humanity to take the next step in the evolutionary creation. In order for one to take the next step one must have developed the soul body sufficiently to have waking consciousness outside of the dense physical body which will dissolve when our planet dissolves and is reformed in the etheric subdivision of the physical world. This series states that objective and its importance and then describes the regions of the etheric subdivision of the physical world and our corresponding vital body. The series then goes on to describe how one attracts the higher ethers for building the etheric soul body and then how to assimilate and organize them. It finishes with a discussion on how to transfer the attention of consciousness from the dense physical body to the etheric soul body.

In *Astrology and the Vital Body* there is a description of the general character of the vital body in astrological terms from its genesis in the Sun Period. The next four talks illustrate qualities of each of the four ethers in the vital body by examining horoscopes of famous people who exemplify concentrations in each of the four ethers.

The talks were first offered August 16 through 20, 2004, one of each per day.

## **2005 Working on Desire — Astrology and the Desire Body**

This series was dedicated to the most problematic task of the spiritual life, taming the desire body. The talks first discuss the place of desire in the macrocosm of our evolutionary creation. They then discuss the desire world and the human desire body. After this there is a discussion of process in the desire body after which there is a discussion of the problems in the desire, their origin and history. The final talk is about tools for working on desire.

*Astrology and the Desire Body* is an astrological tour of the regions of the desire world using horoscopes of famous people whose horoscopes show them to be concentrated in the various regions of the desire world.

The talks were first offered August 8 through 12, 2005, one of each per day.

## **2006 Cycles in Rosicrucian Philosophy — The Lunation Cycle**

*Cycles in Rosicrucian Philosophy* shows the ubiquity of cycles throughout the evolutionary creation. The intent is to familiarize ourselves with how various cycles work so we can work with them. After three talks about the life cycle, the cycle of rebirth, one talk is dedicated to the cycle of introversion and extroversion and one talk is dedicated to the grand, cosmological cycle of the evolutionary creation itself.

*The Lunation Cycle* is a study of the most basic cycle of all, the Sun-Moon lunation cycle which Max Heindel mentions so often. The idea is to develop the give and take relationship between two planets in a binary cycle as an example of any kind of cycle. Aspects are seen as turning points in the cycle and horoscopes of famous people with various Sun-Moon aspects are used to illustrate the concepts.

The talks were first offered August 21 through 25, 2006, one of each per day.

## **2007 Consciousness — Astrological Flavors of Consciousness**

After one talk to introduce the very difficult topic of consciousness in terms of the Rosicrucian philosophy and our experience, the next three talks are dedicated the evolution of consciousness according to the Rosicrucian philosophy in ways that we can see in ourselves and the world. The final talk is dedicated to exploring one all important sentence from the writings of Max Heindel in a way that we can apply the principle in our lives.

*Astrological Flavors of Consciousness* treats the planets as foci of the spectrum of consciousness. By looking at horoscopes of famous people and using accentuations of planetary opposites, the talks try to get a feel of the different flavors of consciousness.

The talks were first offered August 13 through 17, 2007, one of each per day.

## **2008 Rosicrucian Spiritual Exercises — Aspects as Tools of Consciousness**

The first talk discusses exercises in general, focussing especially on the concentrative nature of the exercises. The following three talks focus on the three basic Rosicrucian exercises: concentration, prayer and retrospection. The final talk is about progressive application of the basic exercises to deeper and almost unbelievable levels of experience.

*Aspects as Tools of Consciousness* is a series of five talks, one for each of the five basic astrological aspects: the conjunction, the sextile, the square, the trine and the opposition. Each of the aspects represents several tools used in the world to accomplish various ends. For example the conjunction represents the needle, the opposition a second class lever, the trine an inclined plane and so on. Examples of each of the aspects as a tool or tools are shown in the horoscopes of famous people.

The talks were first offered August 25 through 29, 2008, one of each per day.

## **2009 Cause and Consequence — Astrology and Destiny**

*Cause and Consequence* is a series of talks that explores some challenging questions about this subject which so many feel they already know such as “When does a cause become a consequence?”, Where does a cause become a consequence and so on. The talks also explore vertical causation and the purpose and goodness of the law.

*Astrology and Destiny* explores the statement of Max Heindel that there are three varieties of destiny: pay as you go, destiny which can be worked out through service and fixed destiny. Mr. Heindel associates the three types of destiny with the cardinal signs, the common signs and the fixed signs respectively. Again, many horoscopes of famous people are used to facilitate this study.

The talks were first offered August 17 through 21, 2009, one of each per day.

## **2010 Some Thoughts on Healing — Astrological Homunculi**

*Some Thoughts on Healing* is a discussion of the subject of spiritual and material healing based on various writings of Max Heindel. Topics are taken from *Occult Principles of Health and Healing*, *the CosmoConception* and other literature including some of the astrology books. The talks do not build on each other but are more of a miscellany. Special emphasis is placed on the Rosicrucian Fellowship healing service and what we actually do in it.

*Astrological Homunculi* is a study based on the principle of analogy, the hermetic axiom, “as above, so below. . .” However, it is not merely a matter of relating the parts of the body to the zodiac but noting that there are various zodiacal analogs within the various systems and organs of the body such as the spinal vertebrae, the cranial nerves and so on. The talks are not definitive but exploratory and to raise questions for new research.

The talks were first offered August 23 through 27, 2010, one of each per day.

## **2011 Coevolution — Octave Astrology**

*Coevolution* is a series of talks about our relation to other creative waves in our evolutionary creation. The stories of the lovers of Zeus, the titans, goddesses, nymphs and humans are used to get at our relations with those who are our equals as well as those who may be above us or below us with regard to evolutionary experience and what our attitude toward each should be.

*Octave Astrology* is a study of the higher planetary octaves: Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. Again the study utilizes horoscopes of famous people to illustrate specific points. Special emphasis is placed on why spiritual astrologers designate different octaves than materialistic astrologers.

The talks were first offered August 8 through 12, 2011, one of each per day.

## 2012 The Evolutionary Creation — Horoscope Evolution

*The Evolutionary Creation* is a series of talks about the creation in which we are participating. Most of the talks discuss the evolutionary principles operative in this creative process so the same principles can be applied in our daily lives. This approach also facilitates making our lives be harmonious with the greater cosmos. Only one talk is dedicate to cosmogenesis as found in part two of *The Rosicrucian CosmoConception*.

*Horoscope Evolution* spends all five talks on one horoscope. First the principles involved in each of the methods of dynamic astrology (primary directions, secondary progressions, and transits). The rest of the week is spent showing examples of how each of the methods work in the given horoscope. The talks are meant to give a rough idea of how dynamic astrology works and not to be pinpoint accurate.

The talks were first offered August 13 through 17, 2012, one of each per day.

