

Letter from the President: March 2025



**By Professor Charlotte Benson,
ACVA President**

Dear Friends of ACVA.

We hope that you enjoy the variety and the depth of the great articles in this edition of the ACVA News. And that you are staying well this season. It's beautiful here now in the desert where I live. The citrus trees are blossoming, and the bees are busy.

As you are probably aware, there will be an enormous gathering of seven planets in Pisces rasi on March 29 and early March 30, 2025. This stellium is literally unprecedented! Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Rahu, Saturn, and Neptune all in Meena rasi. This is obviously an unbalanced situation, and needs careful, mindful attention. The house in which Pisces falls in your birth chart should be tremendously energized by this amazing conjunction. The best approach to managing this much energy in one concentrated area is to be aware of the power of your thoughts. And of course, to be serious about your spiritual practice.

ACVA Leadership Team members have been busy collaborating with our organizational colleagues. I recently spoke at a Western astrology conference in Orlando, Florida, on the topic of the Jyotish bhavas. The lecture was well attended, and I made it easy for the Western astrology practitioners to incorporate some advanced and specific attributes of the Vedic houses to their previous repertoire. There was a lot of interest in Jyotish expressed among Western astrology students! Jyotisha is steadily gaining attention for its accuracy and usefulness. I had a wonderful time meeting with my former Western colleague friends. Joni Patry, my friend from way back, spoke there, too. Afterwards I had the opportunity to visit with another long-term friend of ACVA, Simon Chokoisky.

ACVA Vice President and Chief Corporate Strategy Officer, Dr. Sisira Amarasinghe, met with the esteemed Jyotishi Sri K.N Rao during his trip to India to attend the Maha Kumbha Mela. We will publish a bit of the conversation between these two brilliant scholars soon, I hope.

Editor-in-Chief Alan Annand spoke brilliantly on relationships for the Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, recently. He is an excellent explainer of the intricacies of the important aspect of relationship styles, revealed in Jyotish. Alan is passionate about teaching, and it shows!

And of course, our excellent ACVA faculty continues to carefully guide our lively and ever-increasing student body. We are blessed to have such dedicated, talented, and bright tutors serving our students. It is a real joy to see how the students grow in their understanding of Jyotisha, with the support of ACVA faculty's mentorship.

With the patient efforts of ACVA's representative to The United Astrology Conference 2026, Alan Annand, speakers have now been selected for the UAC 2026 Chicago conference! We feel that we have created an excellent mix of seasoned lecturers, and some new, exciting teachers, as well. ACVA will announce those names in the next edition of this newsletter. This international conference will be an epic event to experience!

In the meantime, please take good care of yourself, and of others.

Sending every best wish for your peace and prosperity,

Professor Charlotte Benson (Jyoti Devi)