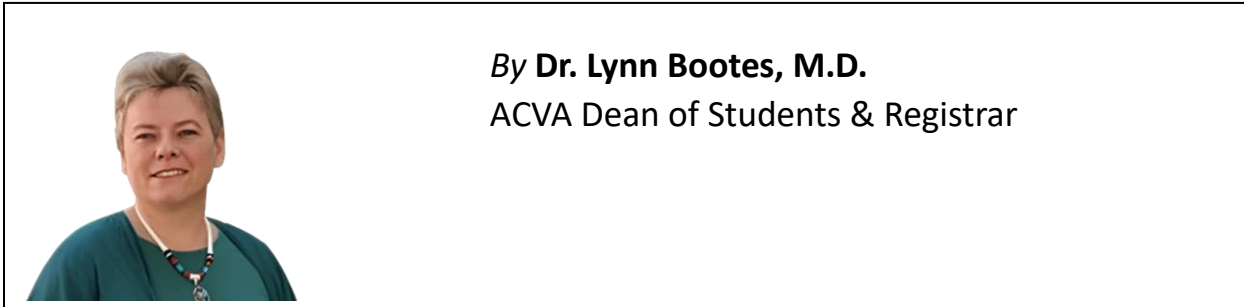


ACVA Newsletter 2026-03 – Observatory



By Dr. Lynn Bootes, M.D.

ACVA Dean of Students & Registrar

THE OBSERVATORY

Sun in Pisces/Aries Equinox March 2026 edition

Dear Readers,

The eclipse season has just passed, with the sorts of extreme weather events and tides which are the natural results of eclipses. In addition, another war has broken out with the latest attack by the USA and Israel against Iran and Hezbollah in Lebanon. Meanwhile, many of us have noticed an uptick in personal events involving crisis and tightly held beliefs. Such is not the inevitable nature of the grouping of planets in Aquarius: Mercury, Mars and Rahu, but these three together increase the odds. On a more positive note, there will be opportunities all month to make hard decisions and stick to principles.

Pisces is in the spotlight with the Sun in the sign from March 14 to April 14. Venus will continue its exalted position in Pisces until March 26, adding to the potential for compassion and grace. Saturn continues in 9 to 14 degrees Pisces, and the non-visible non-traditional planet Neptune at 7 to 9 degrees Pisces. Mars will join Pisces on April 3, and Mercury on April 11. There will be a real shift in the themes in the direction of strongly held emotions rather than ideas in mid-April, especially as Mercury, Mars and Saturn reach a triple conjunction April 19-20. Issues regarding ocean waters will continue to come to the surface.

The concentration of planets in these last two rashis, Aquarius and Pisces, is a wake-up call and reminder for all of us to bring our best to our lives. Not all are called to action, but whether one is in action or meditation or a combination of both, we need both principle and compassion in this life. Dramatic events sometimes call a personal to decide upon intensive study of Jyotisha as well. That is one reason that ACVA is available for students to start at any time.

Jupiter is now moving in direct motion since March 11 in the later degrees of Gemini. It remains bright and alone in the sky after sunset, and it continues to cast its rays by aspect to all the

planets in Aquarius, acting as teacher and guide. Jupiter's gifts are even more evident as Mercury enters Pisces on April 10, as the two will be in mutual reception, a Parivartana Yoga.

The world is again in the realm of Kala Sarpa Yoga for half of every month from March 20 to July 10, whenever the Moon is between Aquarius and Leo. There will continue to be unstable conditions and change at those times. In addition, whenever the Moon is in Aquarius, Pisces or Gemini between March 15 to April 20, there will be many birth charts and muhurtas involving grahas in only three signs – Sula or “Spike” Yoga – there is a predisposition to impose one's view and act in a Mars-like fashion. We can all pause and consider before being triggered by events. We can also select muhurtas when the Moon is outside the Kala Sarpa and interacting with Jupiter or wait until after April 20 when Venus moves to Taurus.

Looking ahead, we can enjoy the arrival of Venus in its own sign Taurus April 20, just as the Sun and Moon reach their exalted positions in Aries and Taurus on Sunday April 19 and Monday April 20. Hindu wedding venues in India are already booked up for Akshaya Tritiya, but you may make use of such an auspicious date for other events promoting fertility, culture and prosperity.

The Almanac

Dates and times refer to Eastern Daylight Time (USA) -5:00h UST. Some nations and regions around the world differ in the dates of change on and off daylight time, and others do not change. Readers outside North America should consult their local sources on time changes.

Because the days leading up to the Equinox have had so many planetary events, they are reprised here.

March 18, Sun enters Uttara Bhadrapada Nakshatra

March 18, New Moon at 10:23 pm EDT at 04deg16 Pisces/Uttara Bhadrapada

March 18, Mercury moving retrograde conjunct Rahu by degree at 14deg45 Aquarius

March 20, Mercury stations and begins direct motion at 14deg16 Aquarius

March 20, Equinox – spring in Northern Hemisphere, fall in Southern Hemisphere – Sun at 05deg46 Pisces

March 21, Mars enters Purva Bhadrapada Nakshatra

March 22, Sun conjunct Neptune by degree at 07deg36 Pisces

March 23, Mercury moving direct again conjunct Rahu by degree at 14deg30 Aquarius

March 23-July 10, Kala Sarpa Yoga in effect half of every month

March 25, Sun conjunct Saturn by degree at 10deg20 Pisces

March 26, Venus enters Aries/Ashwini Nakshatra

March 29, Daylight Savings Time begins in Europe and most of the Middle East

April 1, Sun enters Revati Nakshatra

April 1, Full Moon at 10:12 pm EDT at 18deg02 Virgo/Hasta

April 2, Mercury enters Purva Bhadrapada Nakshatra

April 2, Mars enters Pisces

April 2-May 12, Mars in Pisces makes 1:4 one-way aspect to Jupiter in Gemini

April 3, Jupiter makes exact trine by degree to Mercury from 21deg42 Pisces/Aquarius

April 5, Venus enters Bharani Nakshatra

April 6, Mars enters Uttara Bhadrapada Nakshatra

April 10, Mercury enters Pisces

April 10-30, Mercury in Pisces and Jupiter in Gemini in Parivartana Yoga

April 13, Mars conjunct Neptune by degree at 08deg25 Pisces

April 14, Mercury enters Uttara Bhadrapada Nakshatra

April 14, Sun enters Aries/Ashwini Nakshatra

April 16, Venus enters Krittika Nakshatra

April 17, New Moon at 07:51 am EDT at 02deg44 Aries/Ashwini

April 19, Venus enters Taurus

April 19-May 15, Saturn makes 1:3 one-way aspect from Pisces to Venus in Taurus

April 19, Mars conjoins Saturn by degree at 13deg39 Pisces

April 20, Mercury conjoins Saturn by degree at 13deg30 Pisces

April 20, Ketu moving retrograde enters Magha Nakshatra at 13deg20 Leo

April 20, Mercury conjoins Mars by degree at 14deg34 Pisces

April 23, Mercury enters Revati Nakshatra

April 23, Mars enters Revati Nakshatra

April 24, Venus conjoins non-visible non-traditional planet Uranus at 05deg34 Taurus

April 27, Venus enters Rohini Nakshatra

April 27, sun enters Bharani Nakshatra