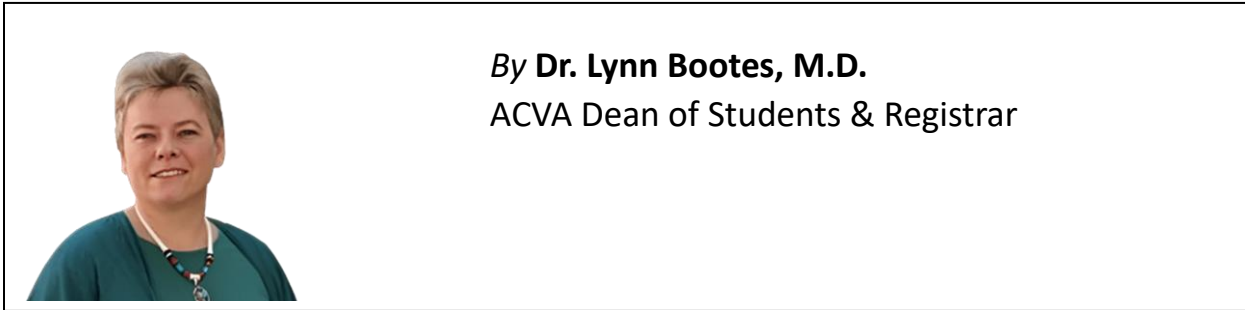


ACVA Newsletter 2025-10 – Observatory



By Dr. Lynn Bootes, M.D.

ACVA Dean of Students & Registrar

The Observatory

Dear Readers,

The stars are putting on a show for *Diwali*. For those outside India, you know this as the New Moon of October, when the nights become long in the Northern Hemisphere. Our greetings to all who are celebrating! Be sure to step outside and witness the majesty of the stars, with Saturn visible in the eastern skies after dark, Venus bright in the pre-dawn sky, and Jupiter high overhead before dawn.

Jupiter is the star this month – entering Cancer on October 19, where it's exalted. Note that it makes its special trine aspect to Sun, Mercury and Mars in the early degrees of Scorpio and to Saturn in the early degrees of Pisces. This Vedic aspect is in effect all month, but it is exact by degree as well in November. Jupiter is also *Vargottama*, making possible some auspicious *muhurtas*. We can look forward to the great Guru's benefic influence and compassion through the end of November. However, make the most of this interlude, as Jupiter begins retrograde November 30, and moves back into Gemini in December for a few months. Jupiter remains in *Punarvasu nakshatra*, where it has extra power and influence.

Mars spends the entire month in Scorpio, a sign it owns, where it exerts influence and makes exact conjunctions with Mercury, Venus and Mars. The Mercury/Mars combination is a challenging one – it occurs twice – in a triple conjunction with Mercury and Moon in Libra on October 23, and again with Mercury on November 12. These are good days to exercise restraint in word and deed and to be prepared to respond calmly to the unwise actions of others. The special trine aspect from Jupiter is so helpful for Mars, as both will be strong in their own signs. Mars is combust the Sun and diminished in strength from November 8 to 30, but we might find much is going on behind the scenes in November.

Mars also is making a special 1:4 aspect to Rahu in Aquarius all month, possibly re-activating energies and events from last spring when Rahu and Saturn swapped places and Rahu entered Aquarius. The good news is this is the only significant event for Rahu and Ketu, who remain in Aquarius/*Purva Bhadrapada* and Leo/*Purva Phalguni* respectively.

Venus starts in Virgo, debilitated but in a *Parivartana* yoga with Mercury in Libra from October 20 to 24. It spends most of November in its own sign Libra, where it joins the Sun for the Full Moon November 5. Look for another period of close cooperation of Venus with its planetary friend Mercury when Mercury moves retrograde into Libra November 23 to 26.

Mercury spends the entire month in Scorpio and is busy as usual, this time with a retrograde period from November 9 to 29, and a period of being combust by the Sun (invisible) from November 16 to 30. The impulse of Mercury in Scorpio is inward, and it is irritated by Mars. But all month long it will benefit from the influence of Jupiter in Cancer casting its special one-way aspect. Mercury is busy with conjunctions to Mars and Venus, but they won't pass close enough for *Graha Yuddha* – planetary war. November should be a great month for introspection and words and deeds of compassion. It may be a less-than-great month for delays in travel and in market transactions during the Thanksgiving season in the USA.

The Almanac – *Diwali* to end of November 2025

Dates and times are for Eastern Standard/Daylight Time (-4:00h) until Sunday, November 2, when the USA reverts to Daylight Time (-5:00h) Some ingresses will take place the following day for those in Eastern Hemisphere, Asia, and Australia.

October 18, Sun enters Libra

October 19, Jupiter enters Cancer

October 21, 08:25 am EDT, New Moon at 03deg57 Libra/*Chitra*. The *Lakshmi Purnima* on which the candles are lit for *Diwali* begins at Sundown October 20.

October 23, triple conjunction by degree of Moon, Mercury and Mars at 27 to 29 degrees Libra/*Vishakha*

October 24, Sun enters *Swati*

October 24, Mercury enters Scorpio and makes an exact trine with Jupiter at 00deg24 Cancer

October 25, Mercury makes an exact trine with Saturn at 01:55 Scorpio/Pisces

October 27, Mercury enters *Anuradha*

October 27, Venus enters *Chitra*

October 28, Mars enters Scorpio

October 28, Mars and Jupiter are in mutual trine by degree at 00deg35 Cancer/Scorpio

October 29, Mars and Saturn are in mutual trine by degree at 01deg42 Cancer/Pisces

November 1, Mars enters *Anuradha*

November 2, Venus enters Libra

November 5, 08:19 EST, Full Moon at 18deg58 Aries/*Bharani*

November 6, Sun enters *Vishakha*

November 7, Venus enters *Swati*

November 9, Mercury stations and begins retrograde 12deg36 Scorpio

November 11, Jupiter stations and begins retrograde at 00deg56 Cancer

November 13, Mercury and Mars at exact conjunction at 11deg45 Scorpio

November 16, Sun enters Scorpio

November 17, Jupiter makes exact 1:5 trine to Sun at 00deg52 Cancer

November 18, Venus enters *Vishakha*

November 19, Sun enters *Anuradha*

November 19, Mars enters *Jyeshtha*

November 20, Mercury makes inferior conjunction to the Sun at 04deg01 Scorpio

November 20, 01:47 EST New Moon at 03deg36 Scorpio/*Anuradha*

November 20, Mercury enters *Vishakha*

November 23, Mercury moves retrograde back into Libra.

November 23, Mars makes exact 1:4 one way aspect to Rahu in Aquarius

November 24, Mercury makes exact conjunction to Venus at 28 degrees Libra/*Vishakha*.

November 26, Venus enters Scorpio

November 28, Saturn stations direct at 00deg56 Pisces

November 29, Mercury stations direct at 26deg32 Libra

November 29, Venus enters *Anuradha*

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