

# SACRED CURRENTS

*feng shui*



## Lunar Spring - Shedding Light on the Lunar Calendar

Newsletter 27 - February 4, 2012

The lunisolar Chinese calendar determines the date of Chinese New Year. In the Gregorian calendar, Chinese New Year falls on different dates each year, between January 21 and February 20. This year Chinese New Year - the **Year of the Water Dragon** - fell on January 23, 2012. In the Chinese calendar, winter solstice must occur in the 11th month, which means that Chinese New Year usually falls on the second new moon after the winter solstice. In traditional Chinese culture, 'lichun' is a solar term marking the start of spring, which occurs on February 4th - Happy Lunar Spring!

Many confuse their Chinese birth-year with their Gregorian birth-year. As the Chinese New Year starts in late January to mid-February, the Chinese year dates from January 1 until that day in the new Gregorian year remain unchanged from the previous Gregorian year. For example, the 1989 year of the snake began on February 6, 1989. The year 1990 is considered by some people to be the year of the horse. However, the 1989 year of the snake officially ended on January 26, 1990. This means that anyone born from January 1 to January 25, 1990 was actually born in the year of the snake rather than the year of the horse. Many online Chinese sign calculators do not account for the non-alignment of the two calendars, using Gregorian-calendar years rather than official Chinese New Year dates.



For some insight on your 2012 astrology or to get this year's luck charm - the Rooster,

[click here.](#)

## A Balance Life Starts with Your Environment

On the most basic level, a balanced room would be free of stagnant 'chi' (blocked energy) and not subject to fast moving 'chi' (energy that rushes through a room without nurturing it.) As in nature, this balance is always in flux, yet Feng Shui adjustments can help to stabilize and enhance your environment to support those who live and/or work there.

The first step in making a positive change in your personal or business life is to call for a free assessment of your needs. Every consultation is personalized to your individual situation in order to achieve maximum results within budget. Your confidentiality is always respected.

I can be reached at (212) 410-1832 or if you prefer send me an [email](#).

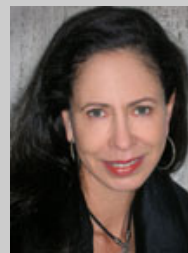


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On the days immediately before the New Year celebration, Chinese families give their home a thorough cleaning. There is a Cantonese saying "Wash away the dirt." It is believed the cleaning sweeps away the bad luck of the preceding year and makes their homes ready for good luck. Brooms and dust pans are then put away on the first day so that the newly arrived good luck cannot be swept away. Some people give their homes, doors and window-frames a new coat of red paint.

Traditionally, Red envelopes or red packets (Mandarin: 'hóngbāo') are passed out during the Chinese New Year's celebrations, from married couples or the elderly to unmarried juniors. It is also common for adults or young couples to give red packets to children. The red envelop tradition evolved from offerings of money used to suppress the evil spirits.



I started the New Year with the 'Golden Cicada Sheds Its Shell' ritual to shed the past year's and to metaphorically get reborn. I cleared my home and office with smoke, bells, and mantras and then seal the doors, drains and stove. I burned all the red envelopes I've received from my clients, releasing their intentions into Universal Chi and expressing gratitude for all that has been received.

Thus the year begins - May yours be filled with gratitude and goodness.

**Judith**