



July 2024 Astronomy Report



- ***Moon:***
 - Phases
 - Pareidolia “lunarisms”

- ***Planets:***
 - Evening planets
 - Mercury & Venus
 - Venus challenging to view due to twilight
 - Morning planets
 - Saturn, Neptune, Mars, Uranus & Jupiter in order of appearance

- ***Comets/Asteroids/Meteor Showers:***
 - Southern Delta Aquariid
 - Comet 13P/Olbers

- ***Dark Sky Viewing:***
 - July 5

- ***Public Viewing:***
 - Cub Lake, July 13

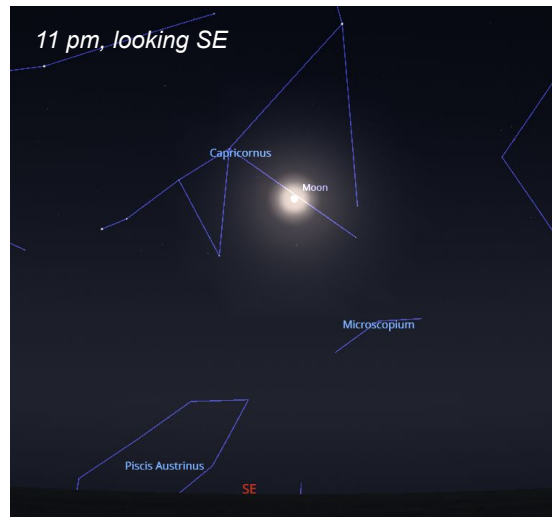
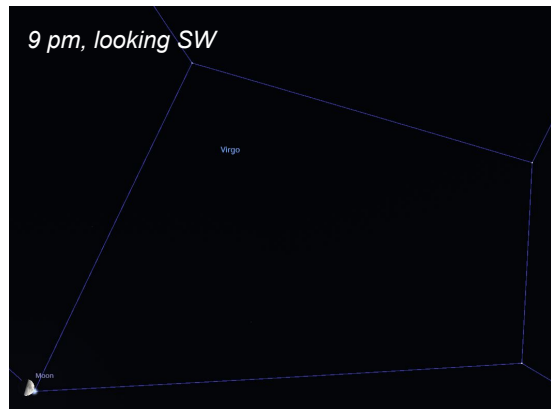
Moon - Phases

July 5 - New Moon

July 13 - First Quarter (Virgo)

July 21 - Full Moon (Capricornus)

July 28 - Last Quarter (Pisces)



Apogee (251K miles) - 12th
Perigee (227K miles) - 24th

Moon - pareidolia (ability to see patterns in randomness)

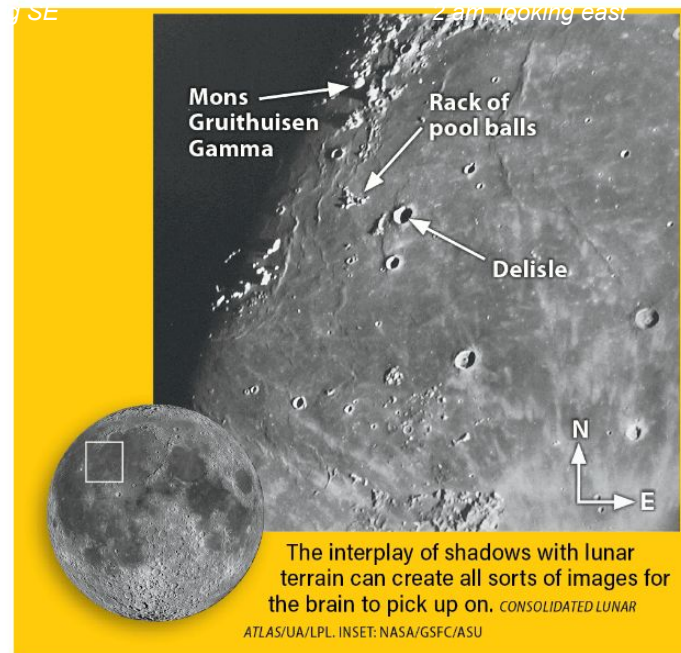
Rising Moon: Rack up the balls

A lazy, hazy summer night is the perfect time to relax your scientific gaze and let your mind wander, your eyes meandering slowly along the day-night lunar zone we call the terminator. You may have seen the more famous Lunar X or V, examples of a clair-obscur effect – when the play of light and shadow bring to mind a letter, number, animal, face, or other object. But will you see a rack of pool balls July 16th, just west of the crater Delisle?

In reality, this is a clump of peaks left over from the giant impact that carved out Mare Imbrium, towering above the plains of lava that welled up afterward. Yet our earthbound brains crave familiarity in a foreign land. A couple of hours later, another region west of Mons Gruithuisen Gamma suggests an upturned sink or bathtub to some observers.

If this pareidolia tickles your fancy, do a search for "Moon clair-obscur lunarism" to find dozens of blogs and videos with dates and times that focus on these features. Mike Rowles has compiled a list of 99 such lunarisms – some you can see two nights in a row, others fleetingly for an hour or two. Relive that childhood enjoyment of seeing shapes in clouds.

July 16 - evening, before midnight



Moon - pareidolia

skyandtelescope.org/astronomy-news/pleasures-of-lunar-pareidolia/

SOLAR SYSTEM

PLEASURES OF LUNAR PAREIDOLIA

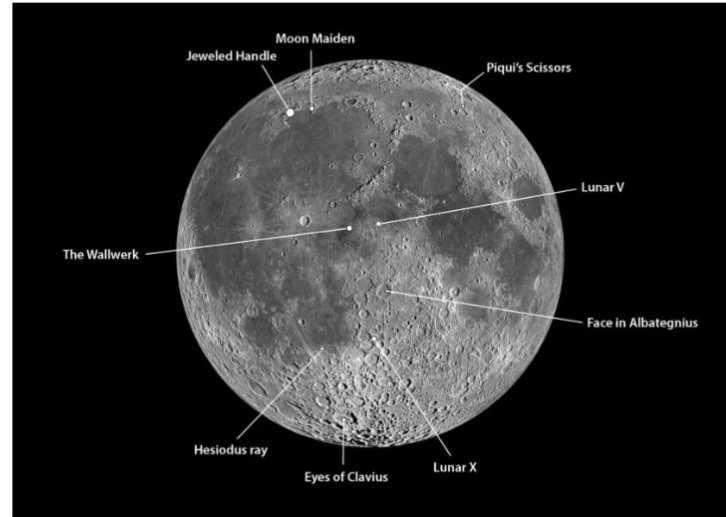
BY: BOB KING | MARCH 29, 2023 | 7

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Do you still see animal shapes in clouds? If so, you'll enjoy doing the same with the Moon, home to the Moon Maiden, a giant pair of scissors, and other fantastic specters of light and shadow.



This map locates our featured lunar clair-obscur effects. All are visible in a small telescope.

NASA / GSFCC / Arizona State University photo with annotations by Bob King

Moon - pareidolia

cloudynights.com/topic/239178-download-list-of-99-lunarisms-clair-obscur/

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Download List of 99 Lunarisms / Clair-Obscur!

Started by Sarkikos, Sep 29 2009 11:25 AM

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6 replies to this topic

Sarkikos

#1

ISS

Posted 29 September 2009 .. 11:25 AM

Here is an Excel spreadsheet in which I've entered all the Lunarisms or "Clair-Obscur" objects that I could find. There are 99 in all. Enjoy! ☺

Mike

Attached Files

Posts: 40,852
Joined: 18 Dec 2007

[3363737-Lunarisms & Clair-Obscur.xls](#) 60.5KB 346 downloads

Sarkikos

#2

ISS

Posted 29 September 2009 .. 11:33 AM

I've used a few relatively obvious abbreviations from Dreyers descriptive codes for deep sky objects:

Ab = about
be = between
nr = near

"d" immediately after a number means "degrees"

Mike

Posts: 40,852
Joined: 18 Dec 2007

dan777

#3

Viking 1

Posted 29 September 2009 .. 10:27 PM

Thanks Mike, nice job.

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www.astronomics.com

CNers have asked about a donation box for Cloudy Nights over the years, so here you go. Donation is not required by any means, so please enjoy your stay.

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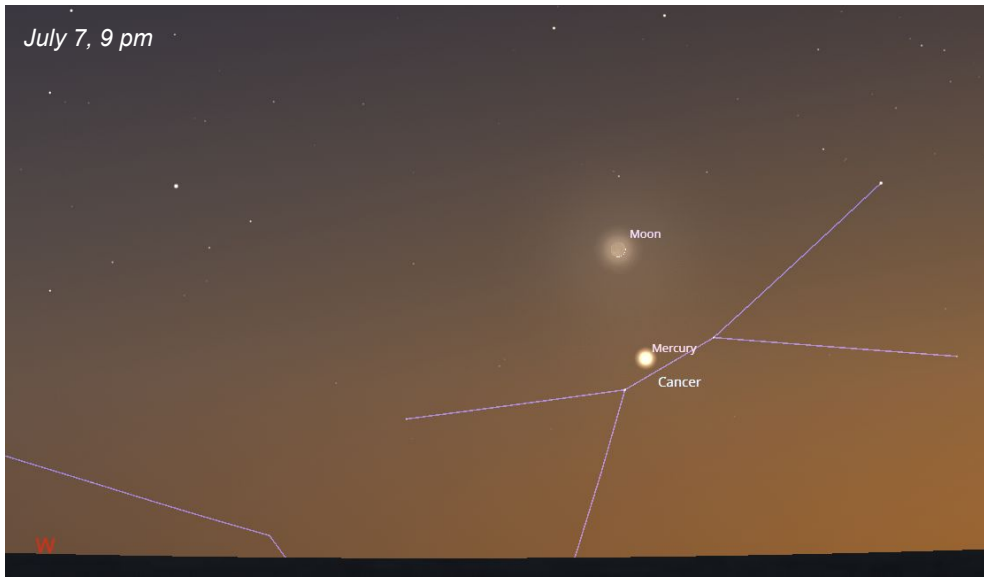
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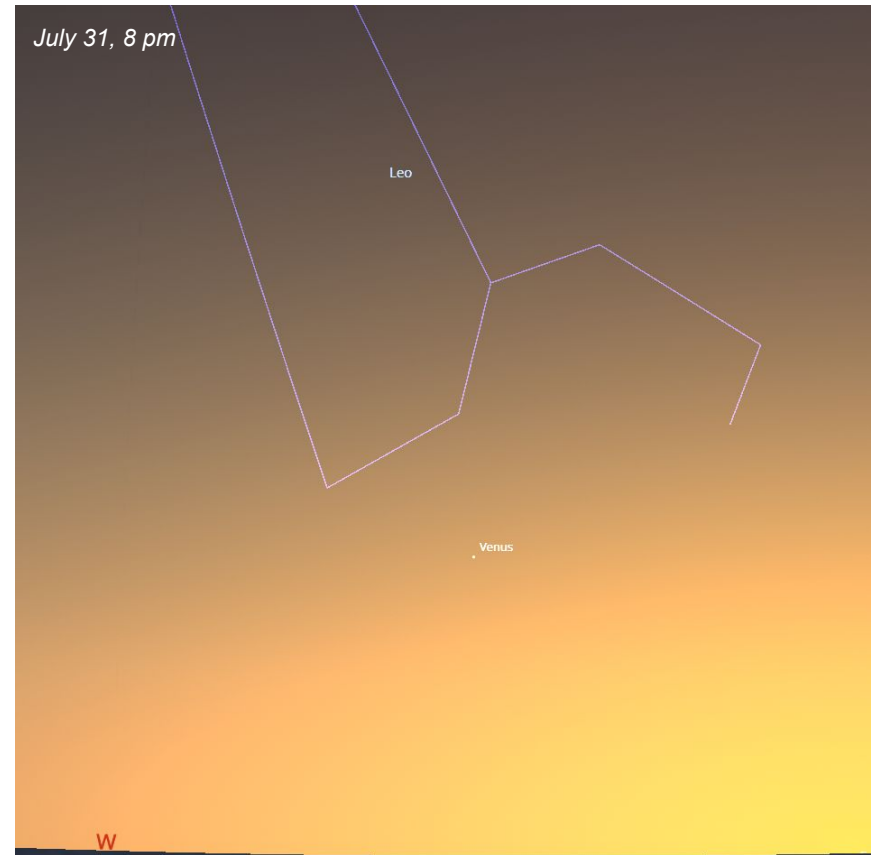
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Evening: Mercury & Venus

Mercury & crescent moon in Cancer



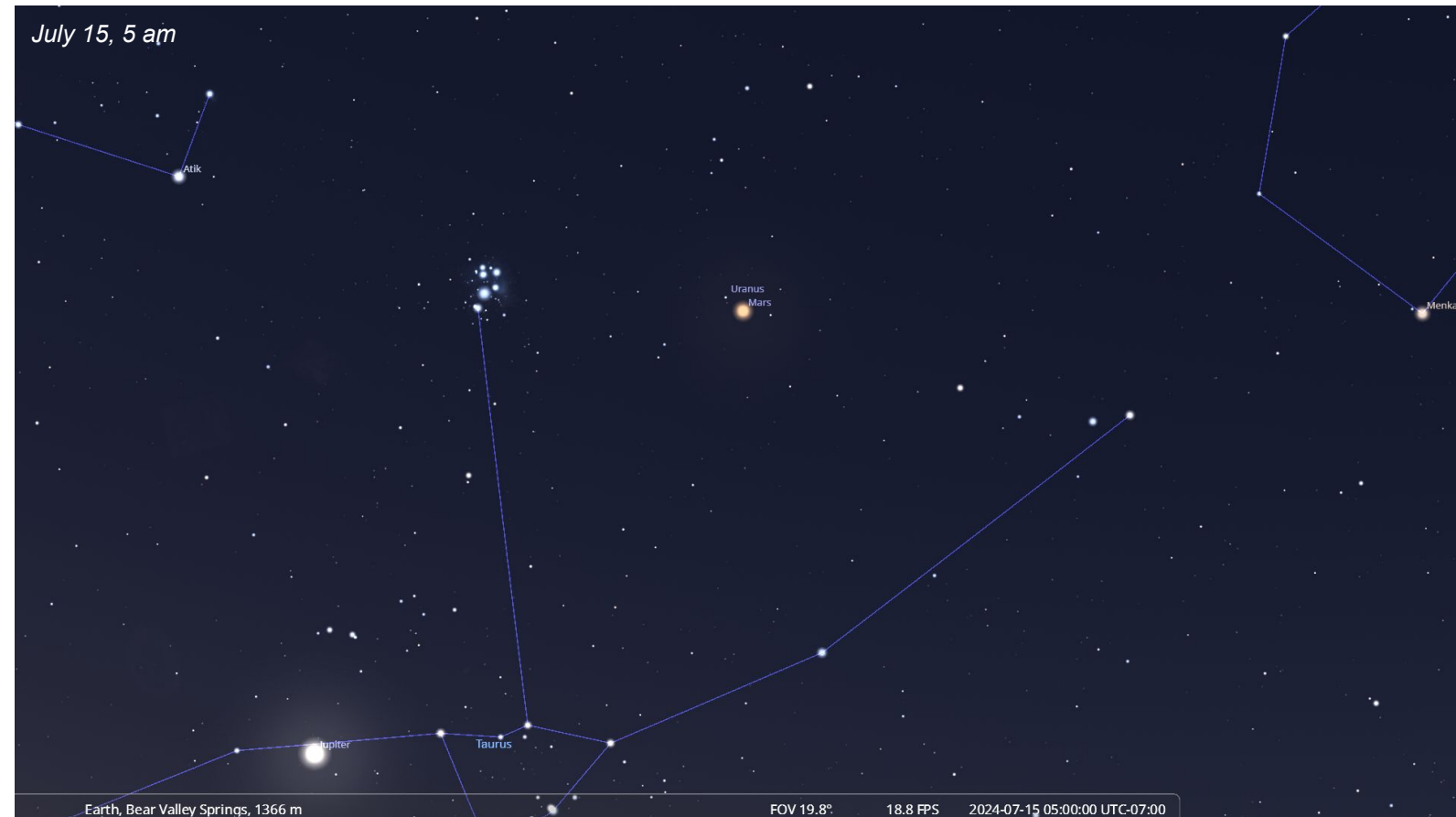
Venus next to Leo constellation



Morning: Mars/Uranus - (Taurus)

Mars & Uranus trade places during July - 1st half Mars to the south (right) of Uranus, 2nd half to the north (left)

July 15, 5 am



Morning: Mars/Jupiter/Moon - (Taurus)

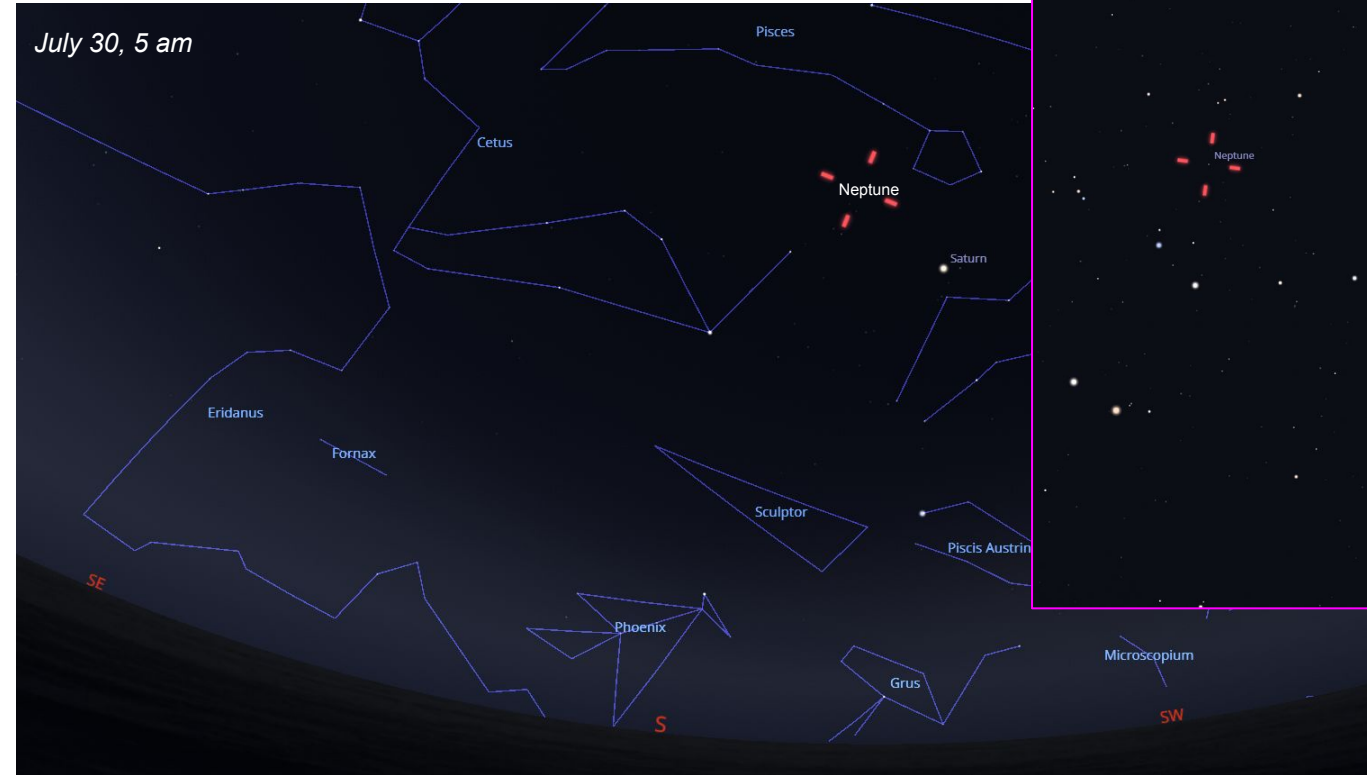
Jupiter's visibility improves as the month progresses

July 30, 5 am



Morning: Neptune/Saturn - (*Pisces, Aquarius*)

July 30, 5 am





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Meteor Shower - Southern Delta Aquariid

- derived from 96P/Machholz Comet
- active July 12 - August 23; peak date July 31 (~25 meteors/hour, waning crescent moon in east)
- may be accompanied by early Perseids

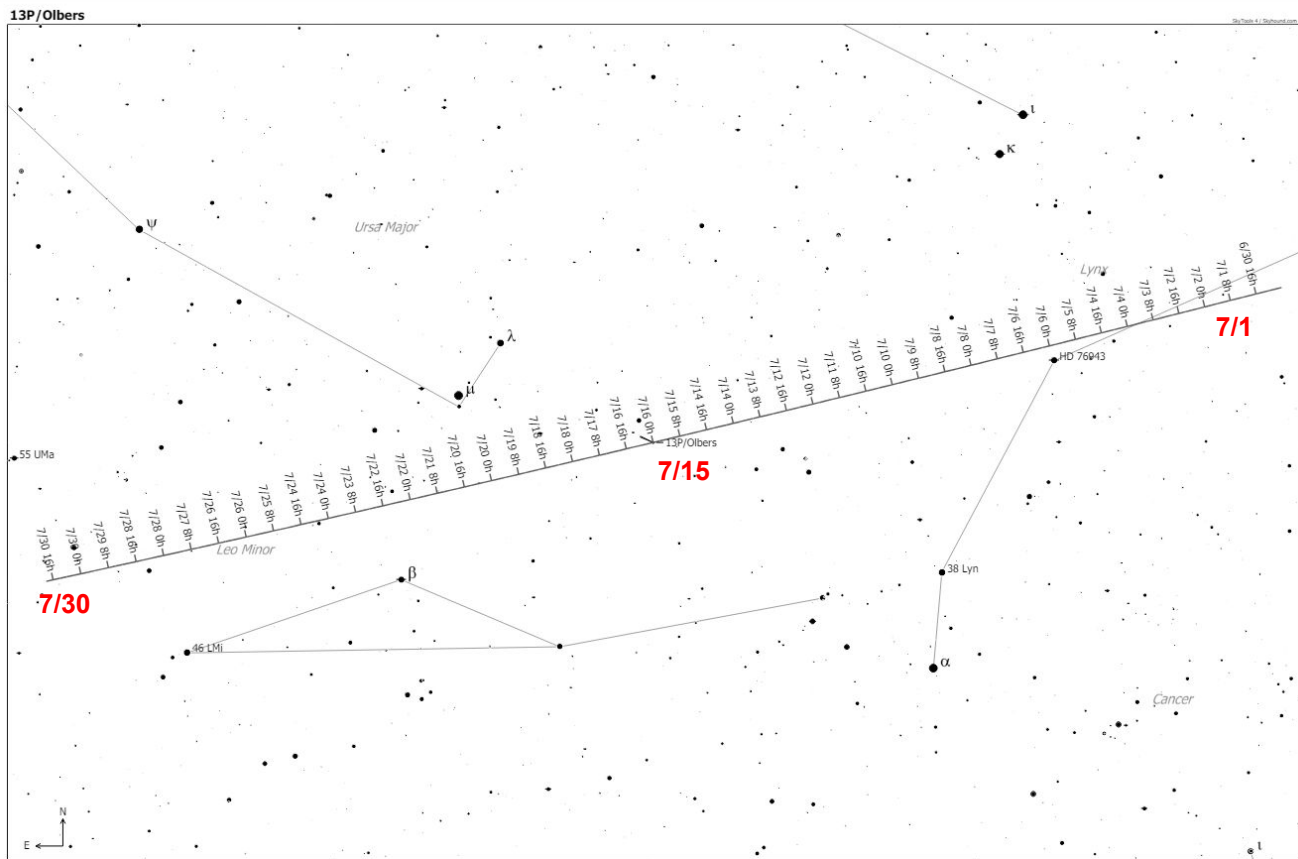


Comet Search 13P/Olbers

Discovered in 1815, has an orbital period of 69 years, never gets closer to the Sun than Earth



Visible with binoculars



Source: cometchasing.skyhound.com



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Dark Sky Viewing July 5

Ps 19:2

1 - M102 (Spindle Galaxy)



Edge-on spiral galaxy in Draco constellation
50MM light years from Earth
small telescopes

2 - M16 (Eagle Nebula)



Star-forming nebula best known for Pillars of Creation region
7000 light years from Earth
small telescopes

Comet 13P/Olbers



3 - NGC 6543 (Cat's Eye Nebula)

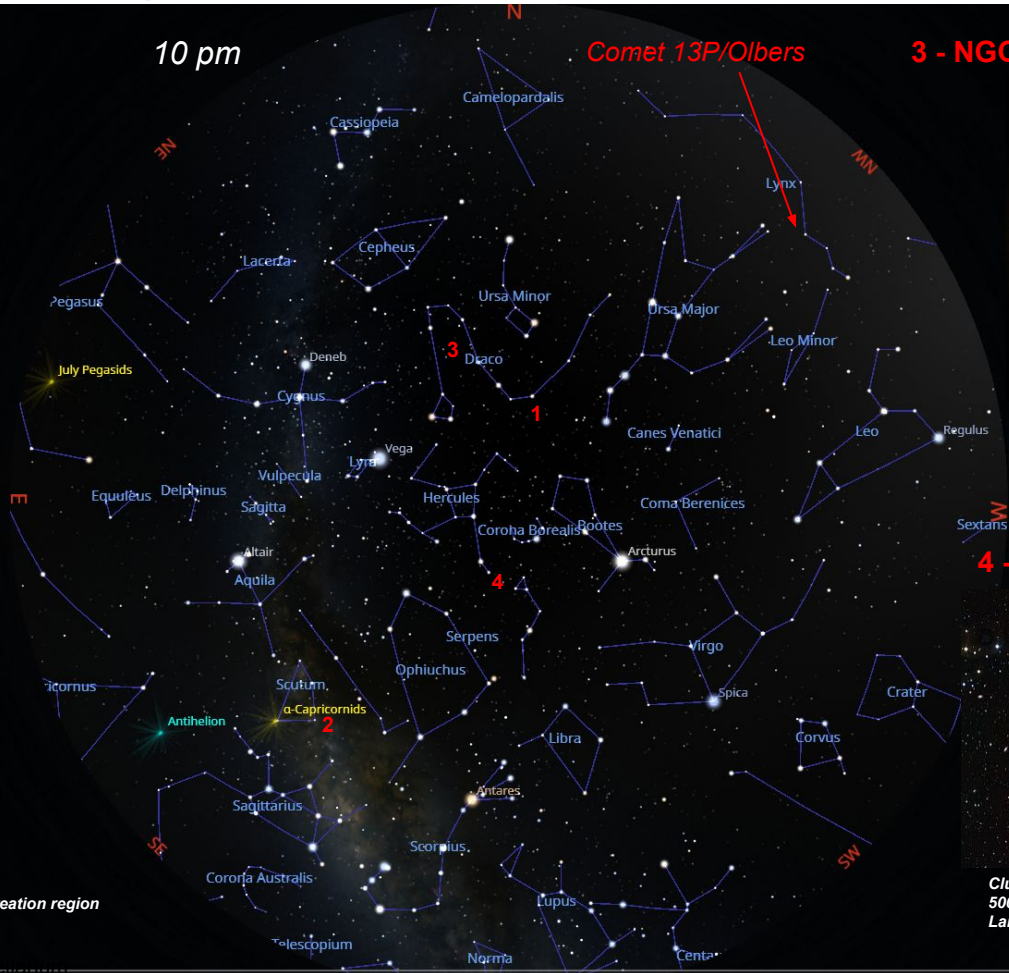


Planetary nebula in Draco constellation
3300 light years from Earth
2021 - high school student created 3D model

4 - Hercules Galaxy Cluster



Cluster of about 200 galaxies in Hercules
500MM light years from Earth
Large telescopes





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July Public Viewing

Cub Lake, July 13

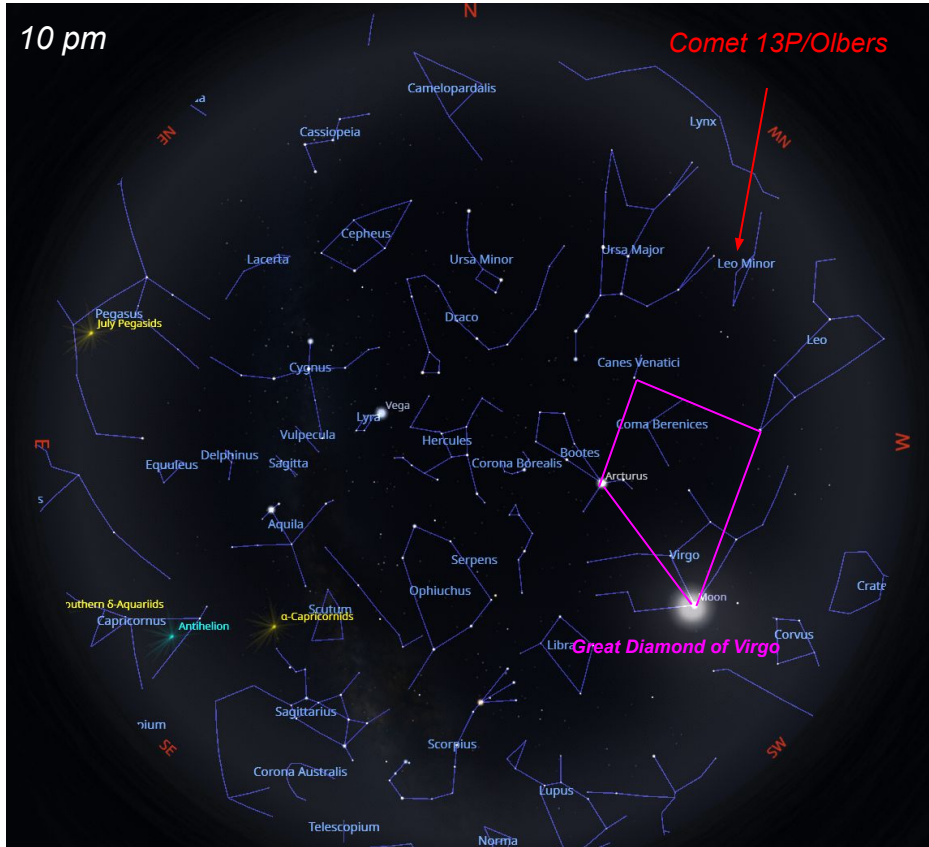
Sun sets 8:08 pm

Ps 19:2

First Quarter Moon

10 pm

Comet 13P/Olbers



July Viewing Chronology

- 1 - Comet 13P/Olbers in Lynx (*9 pm*)
- 5 - New Moon viewing
- 6 - Mercury, crescent Moon (*9 pm*)
- 13 - First Quarter Moon Public Viewing
- 14 - Mars, Uranus (*5 am*)
- 16 - Lunar pareidolia
- 21 - Full Moon
- 28 - Last Quarter Moon
- 30 - Mars, Jupiter, Neptune, Saturn, Moon (*5 am*)
- 31 - Southern Delta Aquariid meteor shower peak(*5 am*)
- 31 - Venus (*8 pm*); Comet 13P/Olbers in Leo Minor