

# Skokie Valley Astronomers

## The Star Gazette

<https://SkokieValleyAstronomers.org/>

**Always check the Meetings page of the website for the latest information!**

Our next meeting, **Friday, December 13, 2024, 7:30 PM**, will be Zoom only! There will NOT be any meeting at the Glenview Public Libra. Please check the website Meetings page for the latest information and Zoom link.

Club member Dale Dellutri will introduce a video presented by **Robert Hurt**, an AstroVizicist (an astronomy visualizer, scientist, and artist) describing his work creating artistic representations of astrophysical objects and concepts for many audiences. He works at Caltech IPAC (Infrared Processing and Analysis Center). This talk covers the development of his artistic process, the visualization of Black Holes, Exoplanets, Stellar Colors, and other topics.

This video is a Plenary Session talk from the 244th meeting of the American Astronomy Society, June, 2024.

**When Data Visualization Isn't Enough: Illustrating Astrophysics for the Public (Video)**

Skokie Valley Astronomer club dues are \$30 per year, which runs from April to March. Please check your mailing label. Does it say "**member through March 2025**"? If not, please consider becoming a member.

2025 Date	Talk	Speaker	Moon Elongation and Phase
January 10	A More Colorful Look at the Red Planet	Paul Guntz	144°E – Full Moon

Paul Guntz, a NASA Solar System Ambassador, will talk about the recent results of NASA's exploration of Mars including the rovers Perseverance and Ingenuity.

February 14	The Golden Age of Medieval Islamic Astronomy	Ahmed Reda	150°W – Full Moon
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Have you ever wondered why most of the visible star names are Arabic ones? How Arabic astronomical concepts like the Azimuth or the Astrolabe came to be key ones in medieval astronomy? While most people are familiar with the Ancient Greek or Renaissance astronomy, most people don't recognize the vast contributions of the Islamic civilization to astronomy for a millennia. Ahmed Reda, programs coordinator for the Minnesota Astronomical Society, will present, via Zoom, some of the aspects of medieval Islamic astronomy, how it preserved the ancient knowledge, and lead a golden age of astronomy.

March 14	Could We Understand an Alien Message?	Dale Dellutri	170°W – Full Moon
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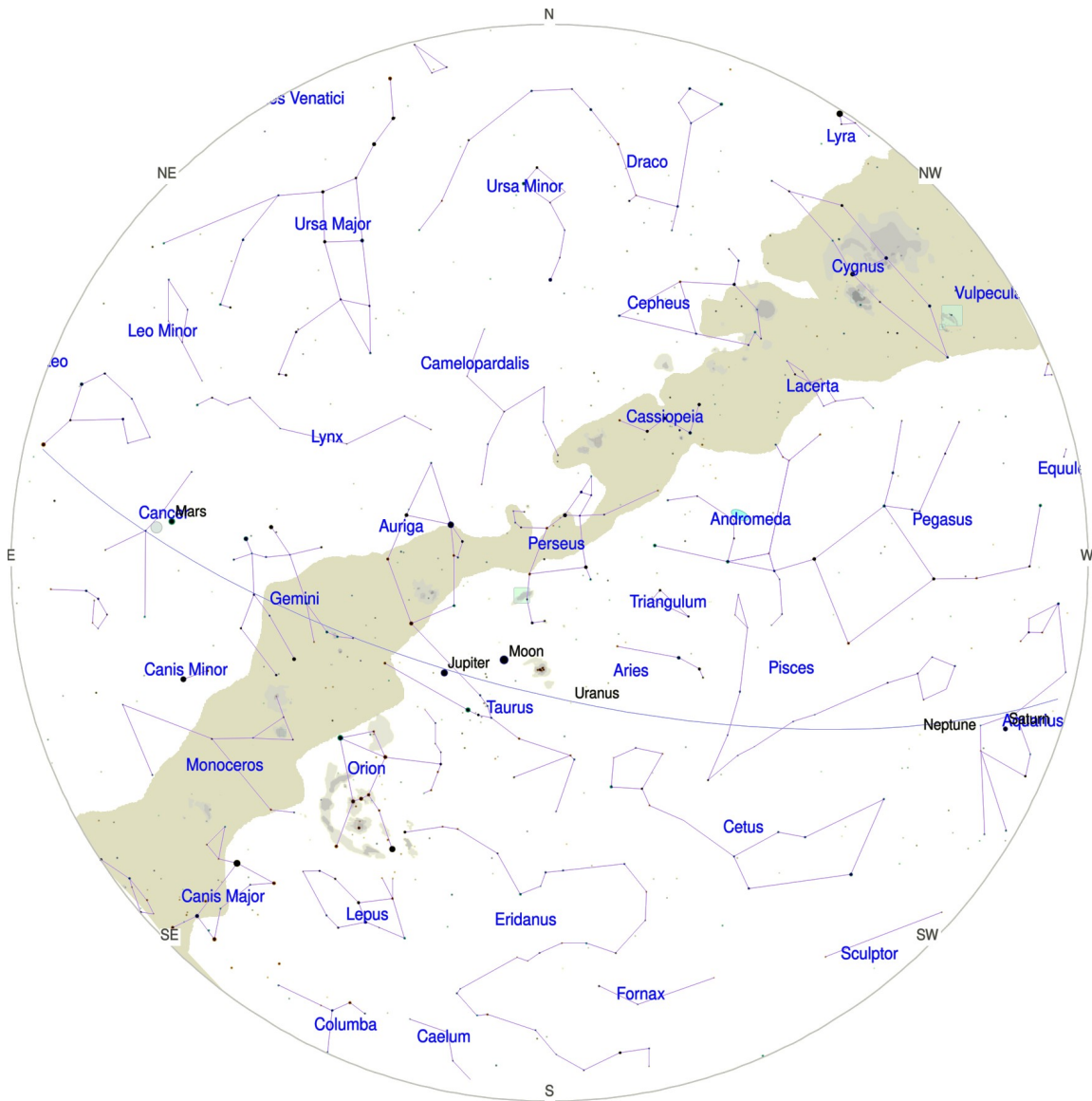
If an alien civilization sent a message, could we receive, decode, interpret, and understand it? Science fiction authors have imagined many kinds of messages: understandable to incomprehensible, benign to dangerous. Daniela de Paulis, Artist-in-Residence at the Green Bank Observatory and the SETI Institute, designed an actual message that was as alien as possible, then arranged to have it transmitted to Earth from a spacecraft orbiting Mars. Club member Dale Dellutri will describe her project and other aspects of alien messages.

April 11	Bon Voyage, Europa Clipper!	Michelle Nichols	171°E – Full Moon
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Europa Clipper is NASA's largest-ever planetary spacecraft and it is on its way to the Jupiter system. Arriving in April 2030, the goal of this mission is to study Europa, one of the Galilean moons and one of our solar system's most interesting ocean worlds to find out whether this moon might host conditions that are suitable for life. Michelle Nichols, Director of Public Observing at the Adler Planetarium, will give an overview of this exciting mission and what scientists are hoping to learn from it.

May 9	A Virtual Tour of the Green Bank Observatory	Sophie de Saint Georges	152°E – Full Moon
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Sophie de Saint Georges, Education Specialist at the Green Bank Observatory, will present, via Zoom, a virtual tour of the equipment and science at the observatory.



Universal Time (UTC): Saturday 2024-12-14 04:00:00  
 UTC Adjustment (Time - UTC): -06:00

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 Date, Time: Friday 2024-12-13 22:00:00  
 Longitude: West 87.80885° = 87° 48' 31"  
 Latitude: North 42.07321° = 42° 04' 23"  
 Julian Day: 2460658.66666667 (+101.3s = Dynamical time)  
 Local Sidereal Time: 03h 43.7m  
 Moon Phase: Full -16°

Object	--Equinox of Date--		----Horizon---		---Ecliptical--		Angr Size	Illum
	RA	Dec	Azimuth	Alt	Elong	Constel		
Sun	17h 28.0m	-23° 14'	123° WNW	-60°		Sco-Oph	32.5'	
Mercury	16h 21.3m	-18° 37'	158° NNW	-64°	16° W	Sco	8.7"	24%
Venus	20h 43.9m	-20° 28'	84° W	-23°	45° E	Cap	19.1"	63%
Mars	08h 36.1m	+21° 52'	264° E	+27°	137° W	Cnc	12.9"	95%
Jupiter	04h 56.9m	+21° 59'	317° SE	+65°	173° E	Tau	48.0"	
Saturn	23h 02.0m	-08° 23'	70° WSW	+9°	81° E	Aqr	17.0"	
Uranus	03h 27.5m	+18° 33'	10° S	+66°	152° E	Tau	3.7"	
Neptune	23h 51.6m	-02° 19'	66° WSW	+21°	94° E	Psc	2.2"	
Pluto	20h 14.1m	-23° 12'	86° W	-31°	38° E	Cap	0.1"	
Moon	04h 15.4m	+25° 30'	336° SSE	+72°	164° E	Tau	33.1'	98%