

Skokie Valley Astronomers

The Star Gazette

<https://SkokieValleyAstronomers.org/>

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

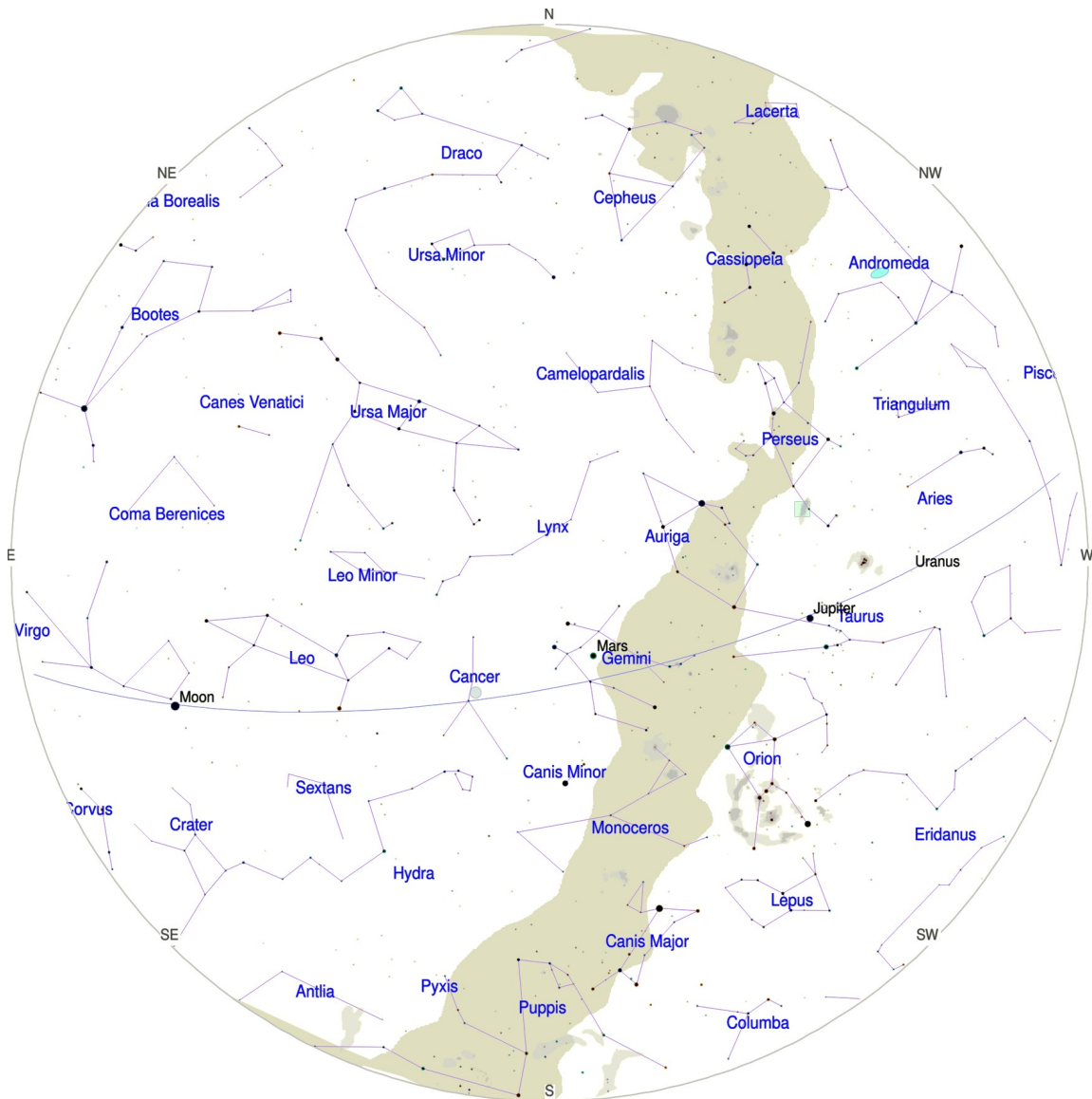
Our next meeting, **Friday, February 14, 2025, 7:30 PM**, will be hybrid: online via Zoom and in-person at the Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd, Glenview, IL, 60025. Free parking is available. Please check the website Meetings page for the latest information and Zoom link.

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.

The Golden Age of Medieval Islamic Astronomy

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
March 14	Could We Understand an Alien Message?	Dale Dellutri	170°W – Full Moon
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
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
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.			
June 13	TBA	TBA	147°W – Full Moon
July 11	Exploring the Universe with JWST, Part 2	Jim Kovac	164°W – Full Moon
Club member Jim Kovac invites you to join the continuing exploration of the cosmos with the James Webb Space Telescope. We will discuss the progress to investigate the evolution of galaxies, the birth of stars and protoplanetary systems, and consider some discoveries awaiting explanation as JWST probes the early Universe.			
August 8	Mountains of the Solar System	Chuck Allen	178°E – Full Moon
Chuck Allen, President of the Astronomical League, will discuss the mountains that can be found on many planets and planetoids of the Solar System.			



Universal Time (UTC): Saturday 2025-02-15 04:00:00
 UTC Adjustment (Time - UTC): -06:00

 Date, Time: Friday 2025-02-14 22:00:00
 Longitude: West 87.80861° = 87° 48' 31"
 Latitude: North 42.07306° = 42° 04' 23"
 Julian Day: 2460721.66666667 (+101.5s = Dynamical time)
 Local Sidereal Time: 07h 52.1m
 Moon Phase: Full +30°

Object	--Equinox of Date--		---Horizon---		---Ecliptical---		Anglr Size	Illum
	RA	Dec	Azimuth	Alt	Elong	Constel		
Sun	21h 55.8m	-12° 36'	129° NW	-49°		Cap	32.4'	
Mercury	22h 15.6m	-12° 42'	123° WNW	-46°	5° E	Aqr	5.0"	99%
Venus	00h 18.3m	+06° 36'	111° WNW	-12°	40° E	Psc	39.6"	27%
Mars	07h 18.2m	+26° 12'	26° SSW	+73°	141° E	Gem	12.3"	96%
Jupiter	04h 40.0m	+21° 43'	78° WSW	+45°	105° E	Tau	41.4"	
Saturn	23h 22.7m	-06° 06'	112° WNW	-30°	22° E	Aqr	15.7"	
Uranus	03h 24.2m	+18° 23'	89° W	+29°	87° E	Ari	3.6"	
Neptune	23h 56.2m	-01° 47'	109° WNW	-21°	32° E	Psc	2.2"	
Pluto	20h 22.4m	-22° 51'	159° NNW	-69°	24° W	Cap	0.1"	
Moon	11h 48.2m	+01° 04'	291° ESE	+23°	150° W	Vir	30.0'	93%