SKY CALENDAR MARCH 2023

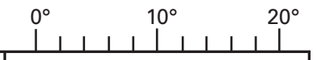
An aid to enjoying the changing sky

Planetarium business office:
(517) 355-4676
http://twitter.com/AbramsSkyNotes
http://abramsplanetarium.org/

Evening Planets: The two brightest planets, **Jupiter and Venus**, pass each other in the west by just a half a degree on the first day of the month. Watch the gap between the pair grow to almost 30° by the month's end. **Mars** can be found high overhead. The red planet passes between the tips of the horns of Taurus the Bull on March 11, when it will be just over 3.2 deg from Beta and nearly 4.7 deg from Zeta. Mars continues to move farther away from the Earth. At the start of the month, Mars is 107.3 million miles away. At month's end, Mars is 135.2 million miles away. Its brightness dims from 0.5 to 1.0 magnitude during the month of March. Mercury is at superior conjunction with the Sun March17. **Mercury** moves into the evening sky late in the month. The quick moving planet appears very low in the west, early in the twilight. Next month, Mercury will be easier to spot. Venus passes the faint planet **Uranus** March 30. Keen observers might be able to spot 5.8 magnitude Uranus with a small telescope or binoculars under ideal viewing conditions.

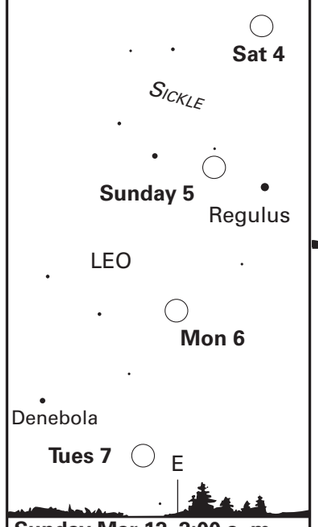
Morning Planets: **Saturn** enters the morning twilight mid-month. Look for Saturn low in the ESE late in the month. The **Vernal Equinox** takes place March 20 at 5:24 p.m. EDT. This is the moment the Sun crosses the equator heading north, marking the start of spring for the northern hemisphere.

Use this scale to measure angular distances between objects on diagrams below.



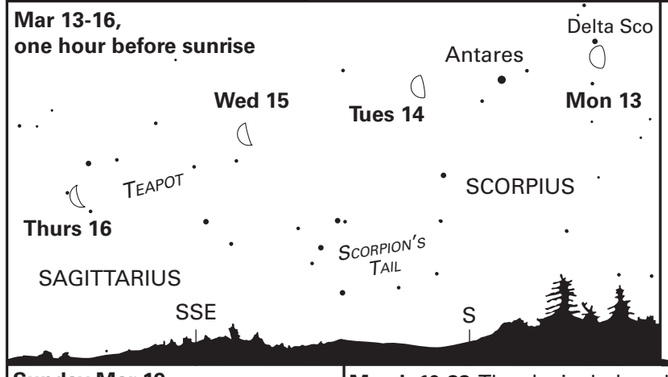
SUNDAY

Mar 4-7, one hour after sunset

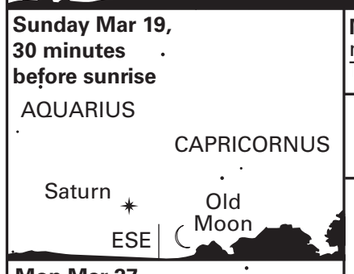


Sunday Mar 12, 2:00 a .m.
Daylight Saving Time Begins

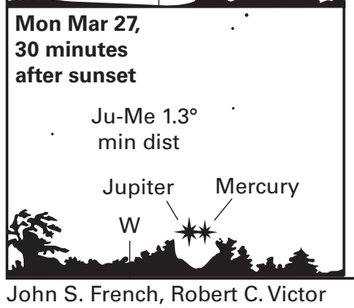
Mar 13-16, one hour before sunrise



Sunday Mar 19, 30 minutes before sunrise

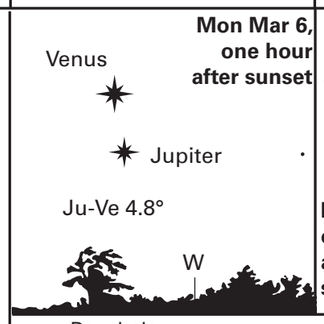


Mon Mar 27, 30 minutes after sunset

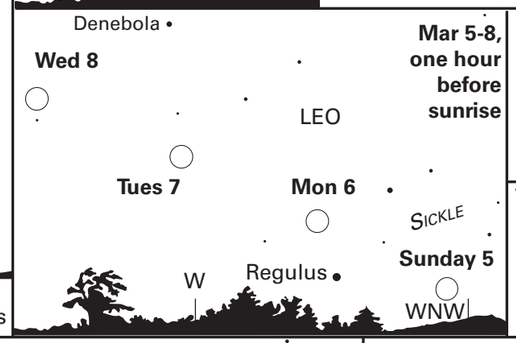


MONDAY

Mon Mar 6, one hour after sunset



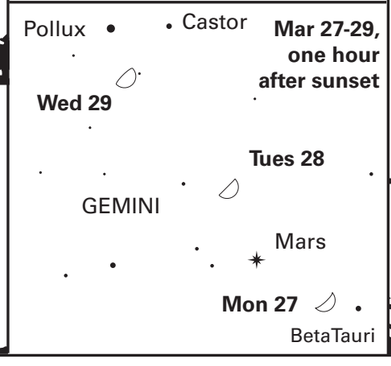
Mar 5-8, one hour before sunrise



March 10-22. The sky is dark and moonless at end of evening twilight. Try looking for the Zodiacal Light.

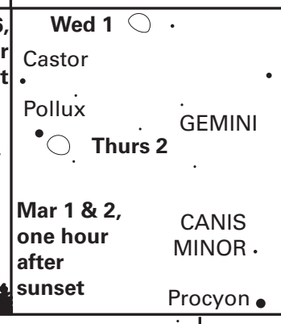
Mon Mar 20,
Vernal Equinox 5:24 p.m. EDT

Mar 27-29, one hour after sunset



TUESDAY

Wed 1

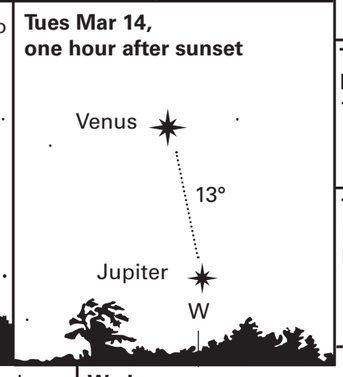


Mar 1 & 2, one hour after sunset

Tues Mar 7,
Full Moon
7:40 a.m. EST

Tues Mar 14,
Last Quarter Moon
10:08 p.m. EDT

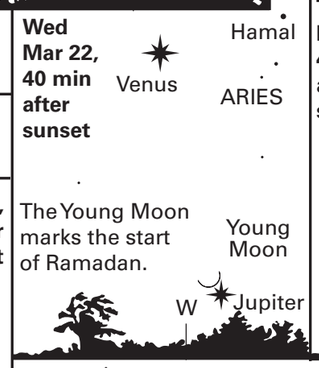
Tues Mar 14, one hour after sunset



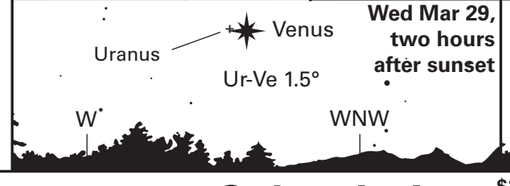
Tues Mar 21,
New Moon
1:23 p.m. EDT

Tues Mar 28,
First Quarter Moon
10:32 p.m. EDT

Wed Mar 22, 40 min after sunset

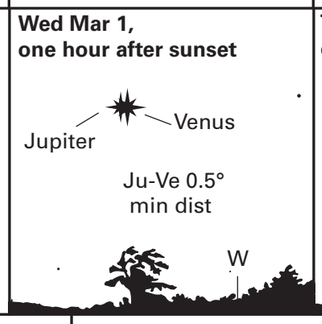


Wed Mar 29, two hours after sunset

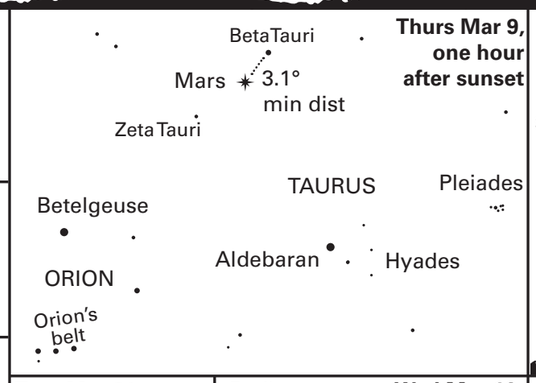


WEDNESDAY

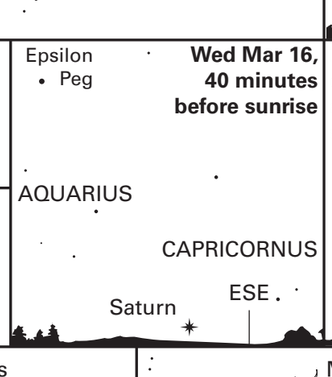
Wed Mar 1, one hour after sunset



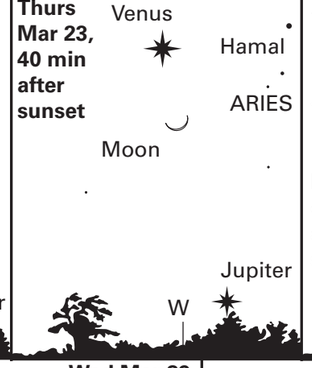
Thurs Mar 9, one hour after sunset



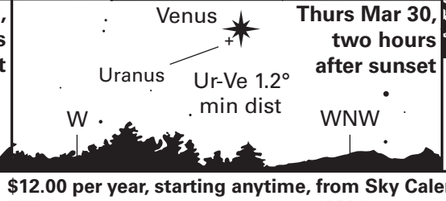
Wed Mar 16, 40 minutes before sunrise



Thurs Mar 23, 40 min after sunset

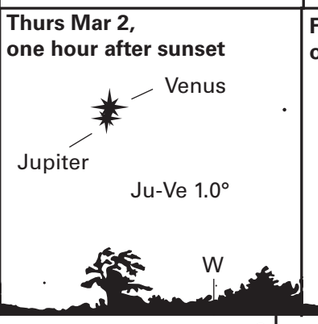


Thurs Mar 30, two hours after sunset

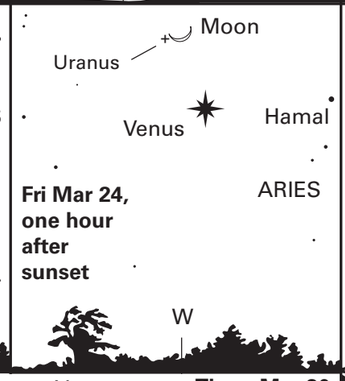


THURSDAY

Thurs Mar 2, one hour after sunset

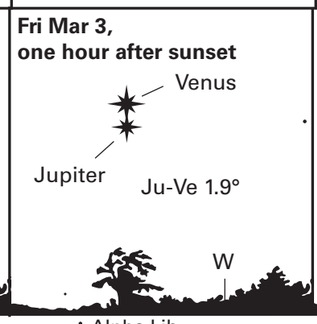


Fri Mar 24, one hour after sunset

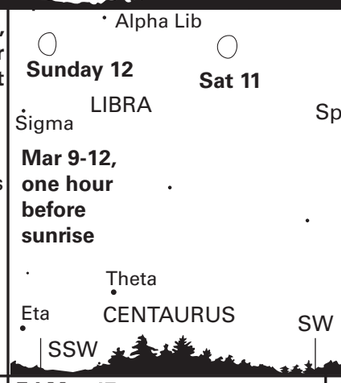


FRIDAY

Fri Mar 3, one hour after sunset

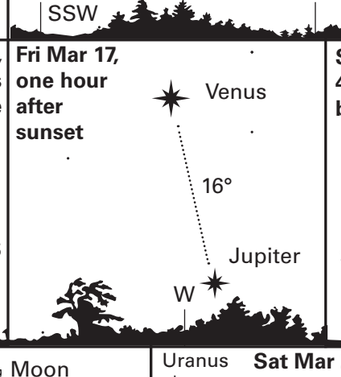


Sunday 12



Mar 9-12, one hour before sunrise

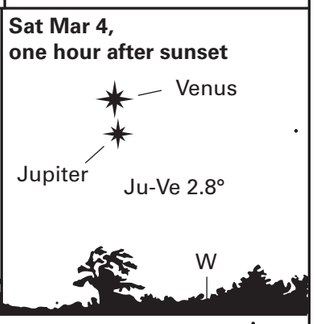
Fri Mar 17, one hour after sunset



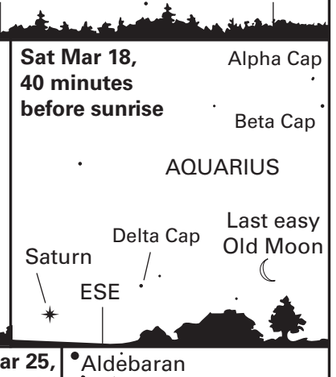
Fri Mar 31

SATURDAY

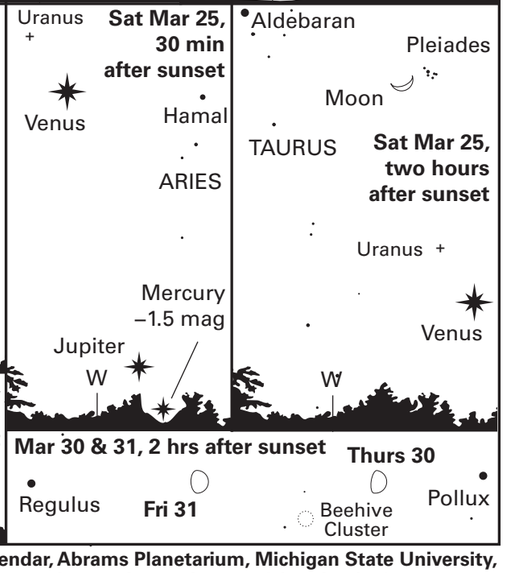
Sat Mar 4, one hour after sunset



Sat Mar 18, 40 minutes before sunrise



Sat Mar 25, 30 min after sunset



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