SKY CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2022

An aid to enjoying the changing sky

Planetarium business office:
(517) 355-4676
http://twitter.com/AbramsSkyNotes
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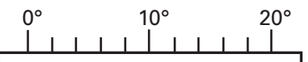
Use this scale to measure angular distances between objects on diagrams below.



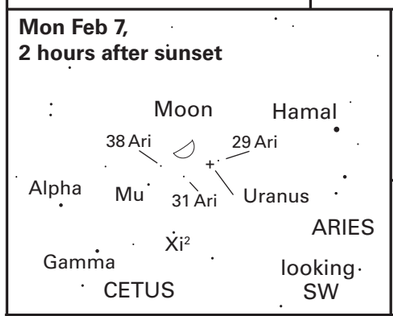
Evening Planet: Jupiter is the lone planet easily visible in the evening sky. Look low in the west at dusk. As the month progresses, Jupiter drops lower in the evening sky. Jupiter sets at mid-twilight on February 21. Jupiter is in conjunction with the Sun on March 5 and will re-emerge into the morning twilight in early April 2022. **Uranus** is high in the southwest sky *(see Mon Feb 7 chart)* when the nearly first quarter moon passes Uranus. Use binoculars or a small telescope to find Uranus. Try observing Uranus on the days after the bright Moon has moved farther from Uranus.

Morning Planets: Venus, Mercury, and Mars are visible at dawn, low in the southeast all month long. Try looking at **crescent Venus** with binoculars or a telescope as it grows during the month. On Feb 1, Venus is a 16% crescent. By Feb 28, crescent Venus has waxed to 32%. **Mercury** gets closest to Venus on Feb 6 when it is 13° to the lower left of Venus. **Mars** stays to the lower right of Venus as the gap between them decreases. Venus and Mars will make their closest approach next month. Of these three planets, Venus is the brightest, Mercury is second in brightness and Mars is the faintest of the three. At the very end of the month, **Saturn** (mag. +0.8) joins the scene to the lower left of Mercury. On what date can you first spot Saturn?

The Moon is at apogee Feb 10, at 10 p.m. EST at a geocentric distance of 251,591 miles. The Moon is at perigee on Feb 26, 5 p.m. EST at 228,533 miles.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

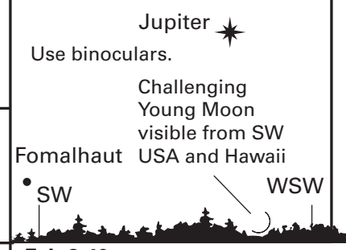
Mon Feb 7, 2 hours after sunset



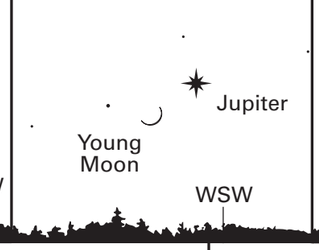
Tues Feb 1
New Moon
12:46 a.m. EST

Tues Feb 8
First Quarter Moon
8:50 a.m. EST

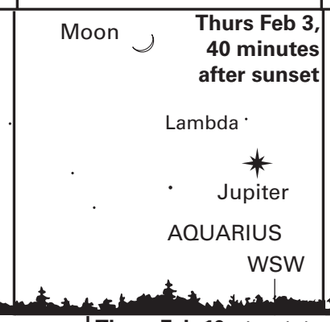
Tues Feb 1, 20 minutes after sunset



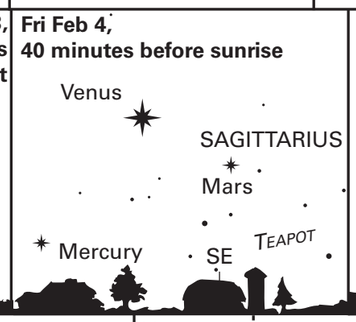
Wed Feb 2, 40 minutes after sunset



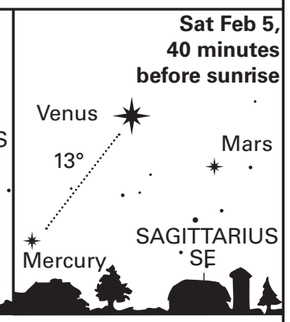
Thurs Feb 3, 40 minutes after sunset



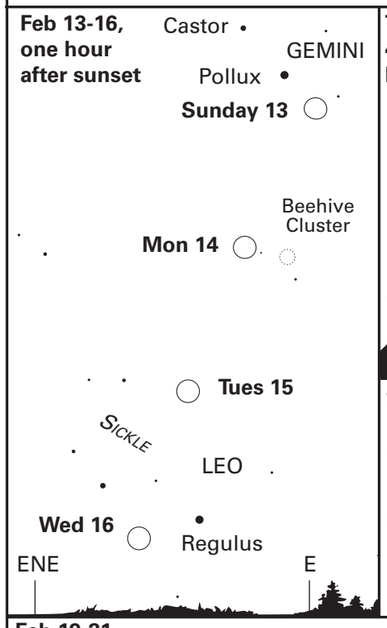
Fri Feb 4, 40 minutes before sunrise



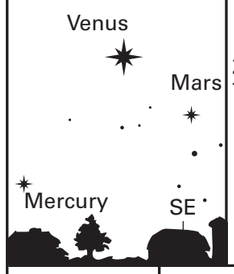
Sat Feb 5, 40 minutes before sunrise



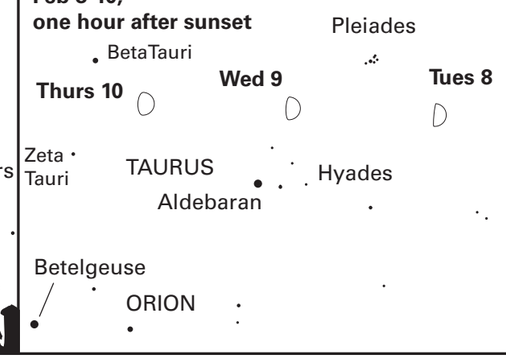
Feb 13-16, one hour after sunset



Tues Feb 8, 40 minutes before sunrise

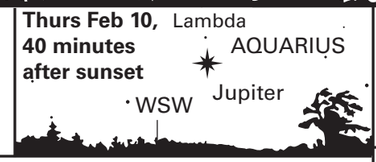


Feb 8-10, one hour after sunset



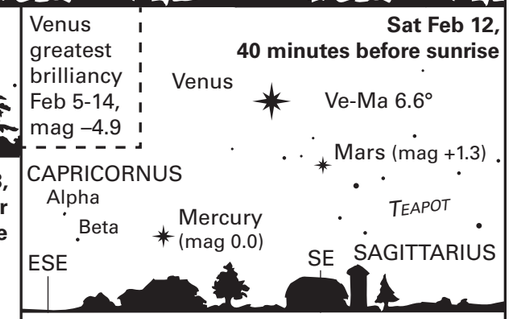
Wed Feb 16
Full Moon
11:56 a.m. EST

Thurs Feb 10, 40 minutes after sunset

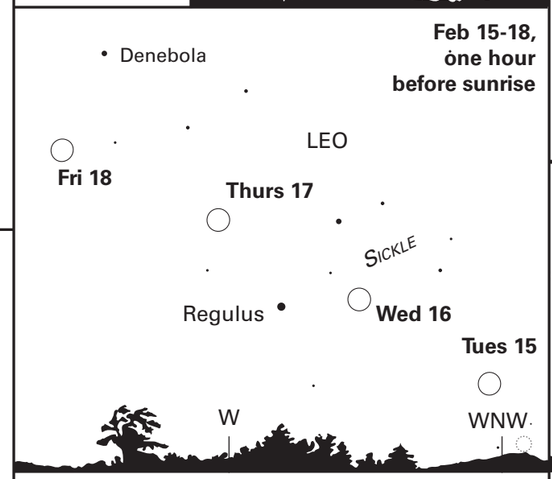


Venus greatest brilliancy Feb 5-14, mag –4.9

Sat Feb 12, 40 minutes before sunrise

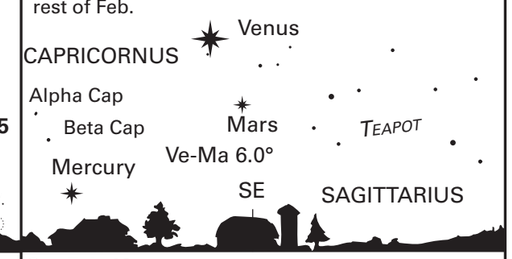


Feb 15-18, one hour before sunrise

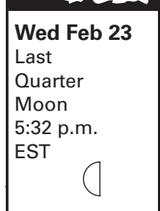


Mercury mag –0.1 rest of Feb.

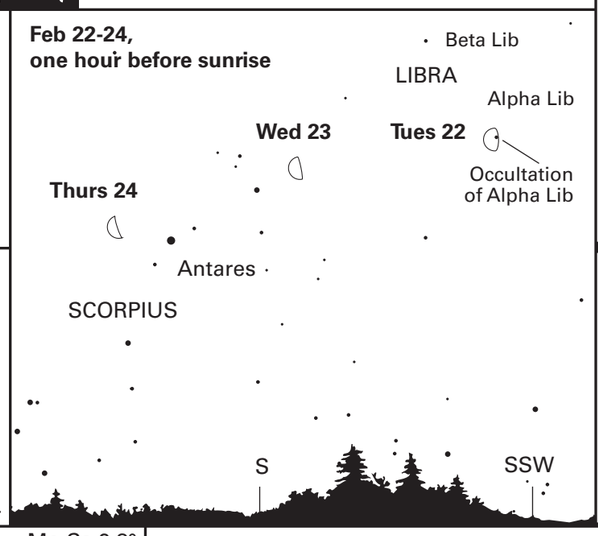
Sat Feb 19, 40 minutes before sunrise



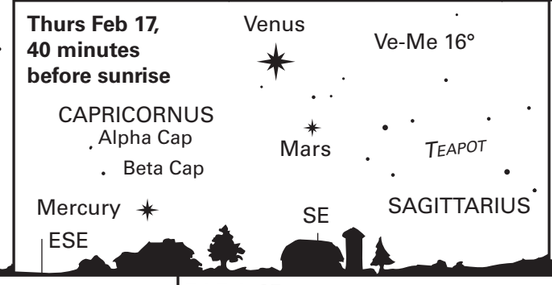
Wed Feb 23
Last Quarter Moon
5:32 p.m. EST



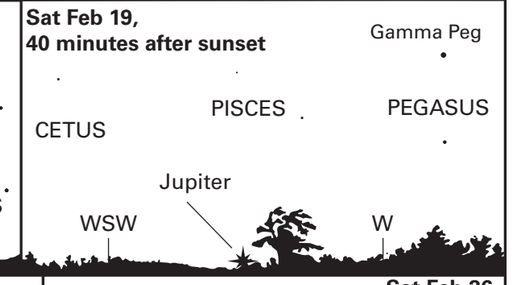
Feb 22-24, one hour before sunrise



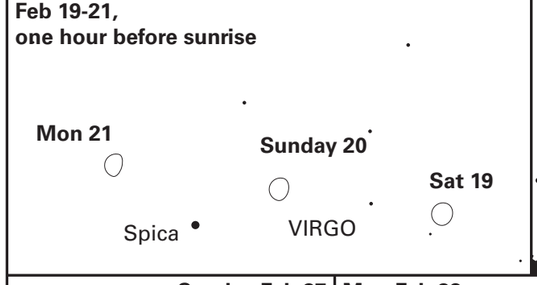
Thurs Feb 17, 40 minutes before sunrise



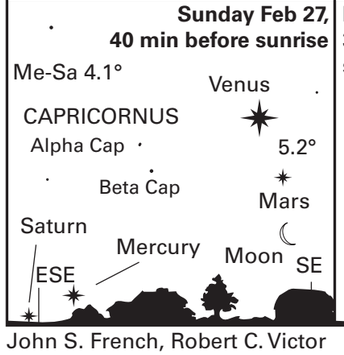
Sat Feb 19, 40 minutes after sunset



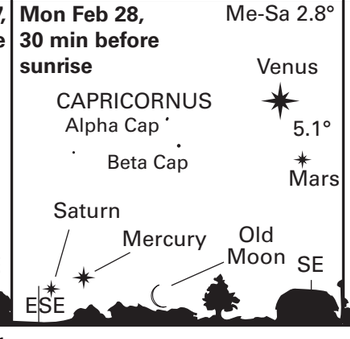
Feb 19-21, one hour before sunrise



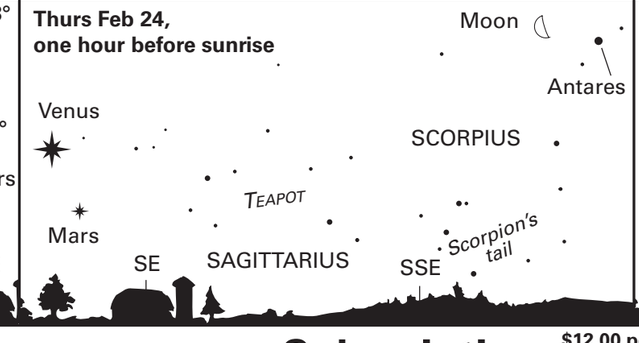
Sunday Feb 27, 40 min before sunrise



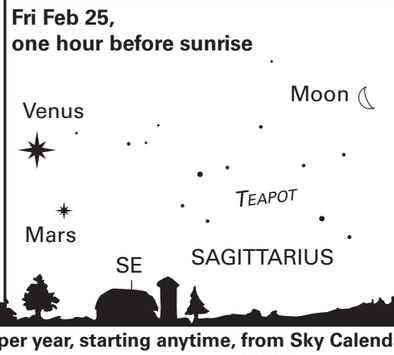
Mon Feb 28, 30 min before sunrise



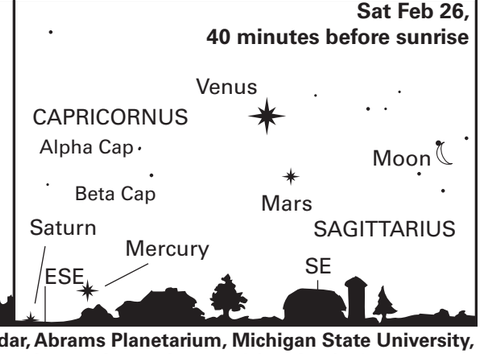
Thurs Feb 24, one hour before sunrise



Fri Feb 25, one hour before sunrise



Sat Feb 26, 40 minutes before sunrise



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