

What's Up?

April 1-30, 2026

Made with the 2026 RASC Observer's Handbook, 2026
Night Sky Almanac, Sky Safari®, and Stellarium®

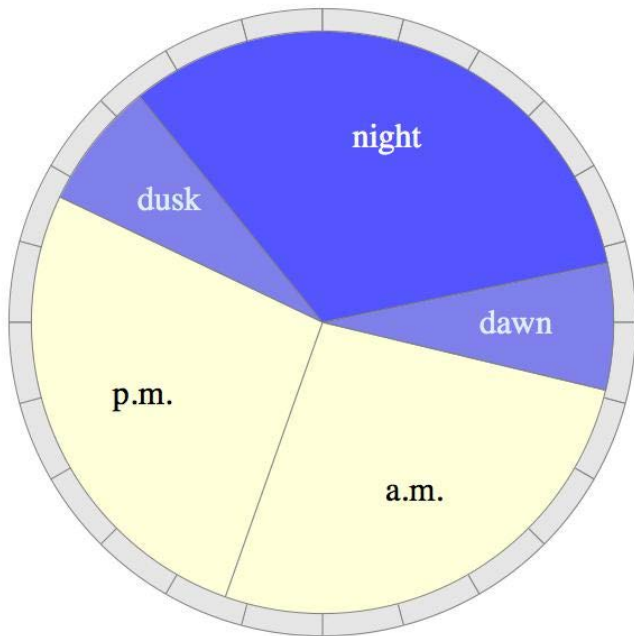


The Sun This Month

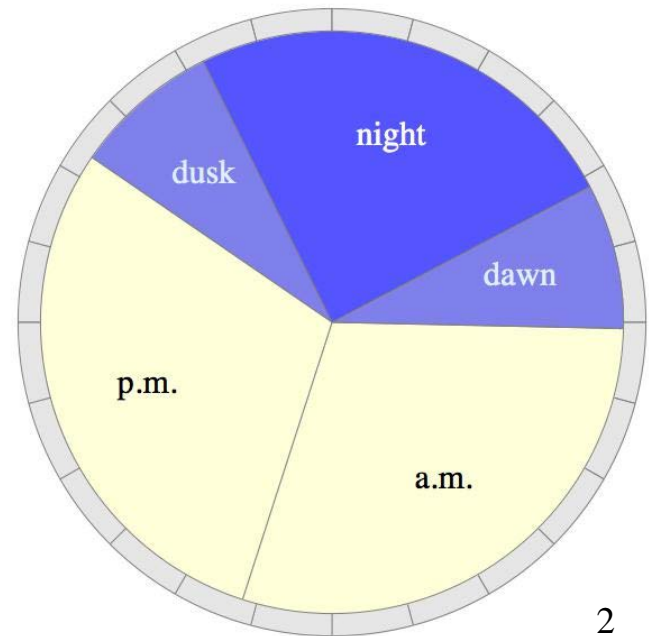
[Today's Solar Activity](#)

Date	Sunset	Dusk End	Darkness	Dawn Start	Sunrise	“Noon”	Sunlight	Max Altitude
Apr 1	7:41 p.m.	9:23 p.m.	7.8 h	5:14 a.m.	6:55 a.m.	1:18 p.m.	12.8 h	50.1°
Apr 30	8:17 p.m.	10:13 p.m.	5.9 h	4:10 a.m.	6:05 a.m.	1:11 p.m.	14.2 h	60.3°

Halifax Apr 01



Halifax Apr 30

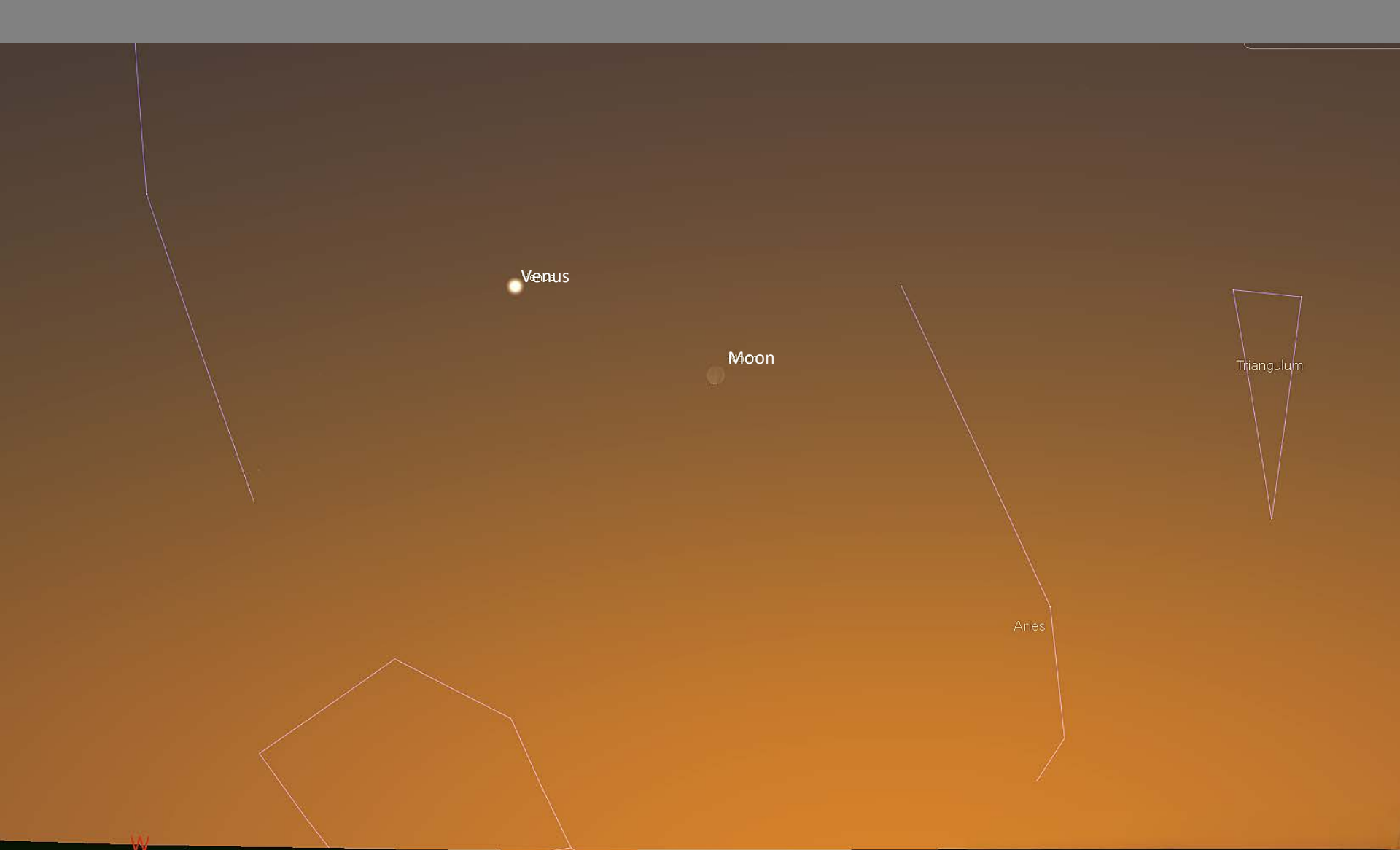


The Moon This Month

Date	Phase	English	Mi'kmaq
April 2	<i>Full Moon</i>	Maple Sugar	<u>Siwkewiku's</u>
April 2	Moon near Spica		
April 7	Moon near Antares		
April 7	Moon at apogee (405,000 km)		
April 10	<i>Last Quarter</i>		
April 17	<i>New Moon</i>	Birds Laying Eggs	<u>Penatmuiku's</u>
April 18	Moon near Venus		
April 19	Moon near M45		
April 19	Moon at perigee (361,600 km)		
April 22	Moon near Jupiter		
April 23	Moon near M44		
April 24	<i>First Quarter</i>		
April 25	Moon near Regulus		
April 29	Moon near Spica		



Apr 7 @ 2:00 a.m.
7x50 binoculars FOV 7.1°



Venus

Moon

Triangulum

Aries

W

FOV 26.1° 17.9 FPS 2026-04-18 20:32:16 UTC-03:00

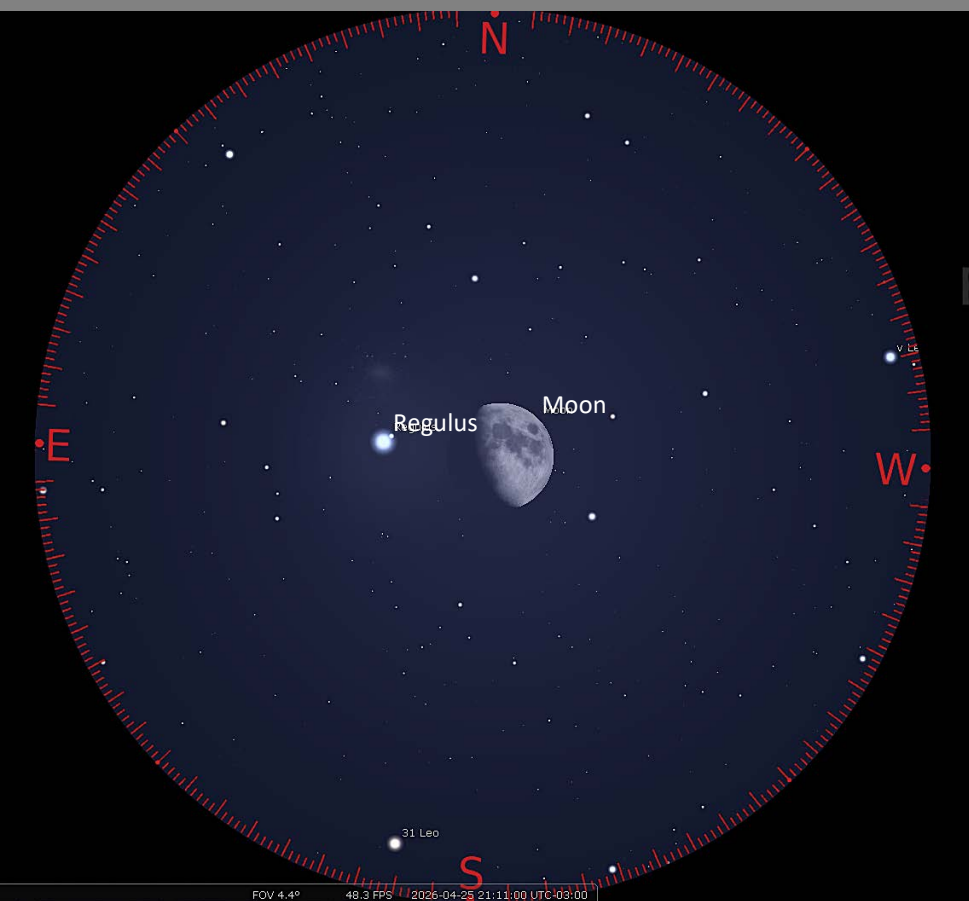
Apr 18 @ 8:30 p.m.



Apr 22 @ 9:00 p.m.
7x50 binoculars FOV 7.1°



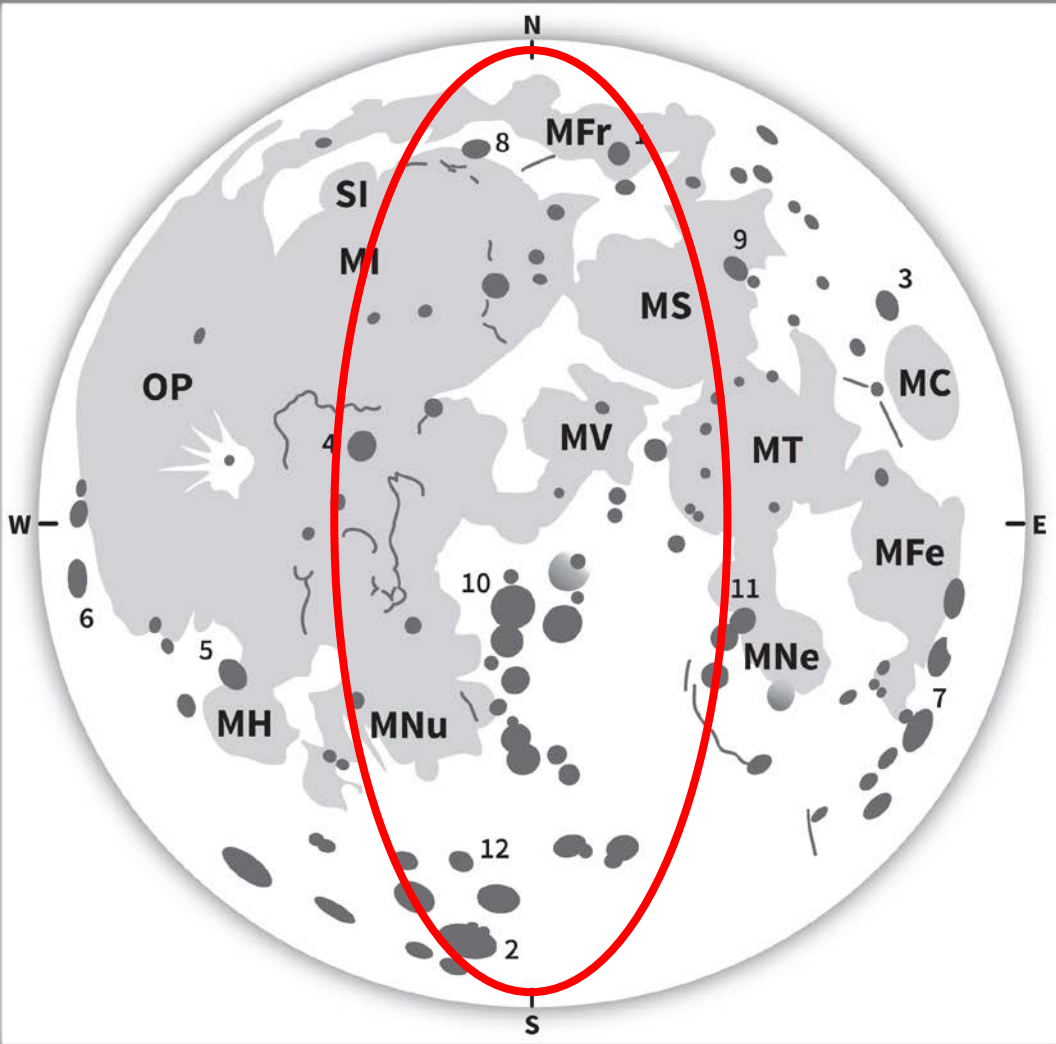
Apr 23 @ 9:00 p.m.
7x50 binoculars FOV 7.1°



Apr 25 @ 9:00 p.m.
15x70 binoculars FOV 4.4°



Apr 29 @ 9:00 p.m.
7x50 binoculars FOV 7.1°



MARE

- MC: Mare Crisium
- MFe: Mare Fecunditatis
- MFr: Mare Frigoris
- MH: Mare Humorum
- SI: Sinus Iridum
- MI: Mare Imbrium
- MNe: Mare Nectaris
- MNu: Mare Nubium
- MS: Mare Serenitatis
- MT: Mare Tranquillitatis
- MV: Mare Vaporum
- OP: Oceanus Procellaru

best view April 22-26 after sunset

The Moon in

Explore the Universe

observe 3 of each in binos

CRATERS

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Aristoteles | 5. Gassendi | 10. Ptolomaeus |
| 2. Clavius | 6. Grimaldi | 11. Theophilus |
| 3. Cleomedes | 7. Petavius | 12. Tycho |
| 4. Copernicus | 8. Plato | |
| | 9. Posidonius | |

challenge

challenge

Pisces

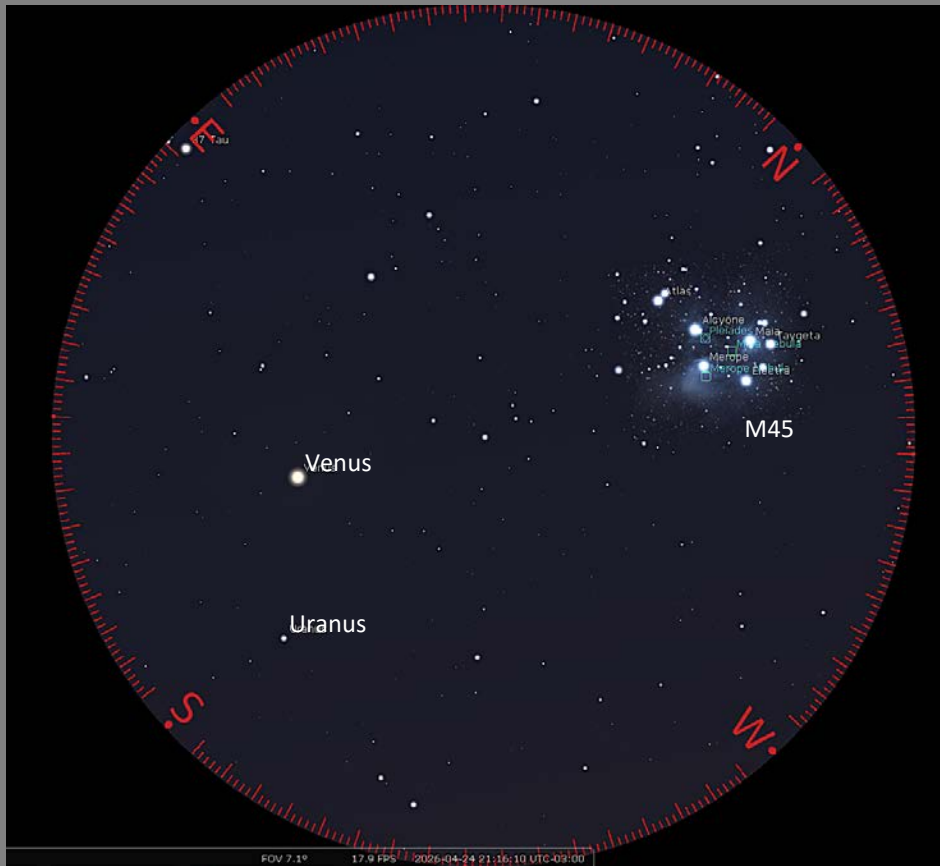
Mars

Saturn

Mercury

E

Multiple Planet Conjunction on Apr 18 @ 6:00 a.m.



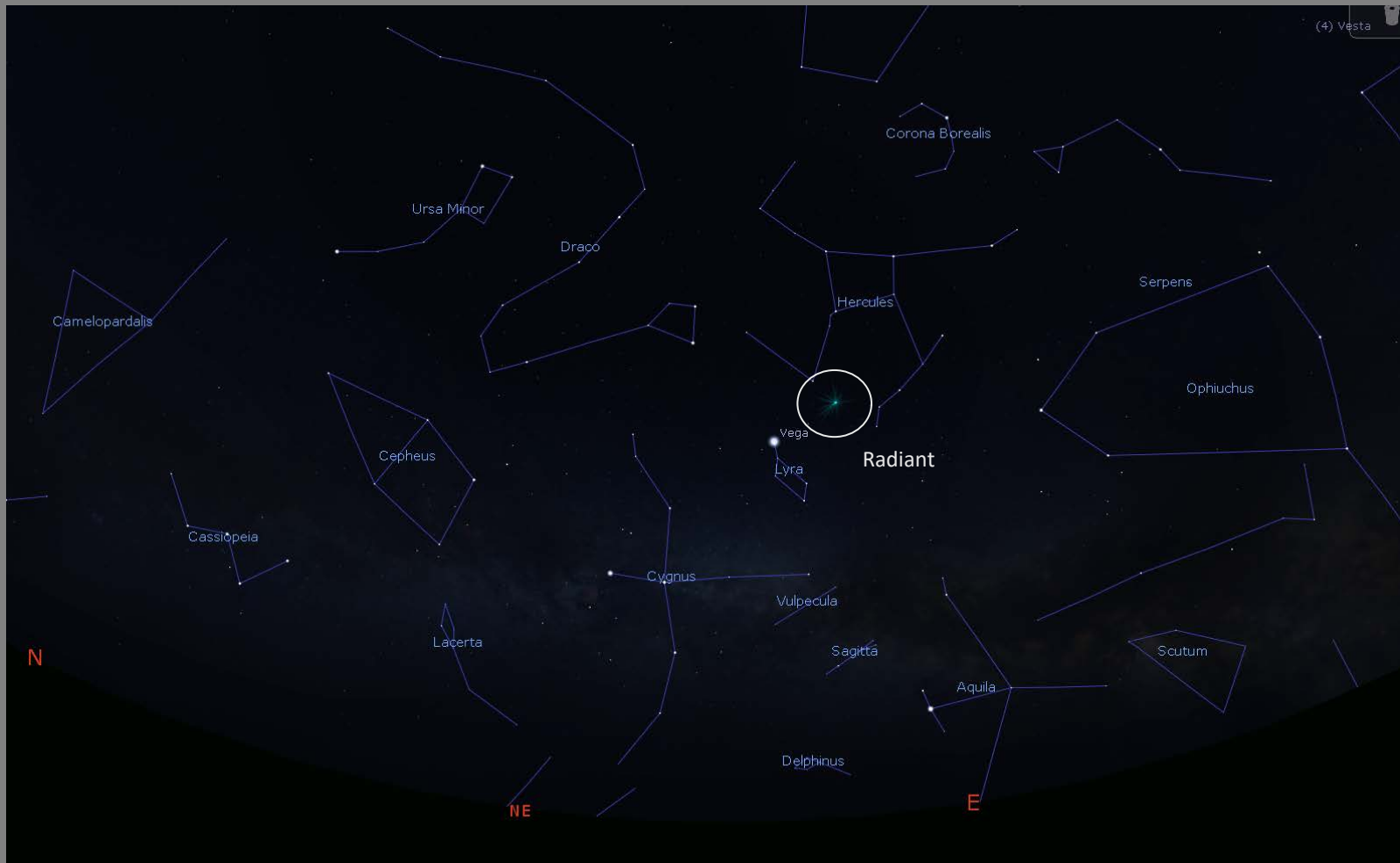
Apr 24 @ 9:15 p.m.
7x50 binoculars FOV 7.1°

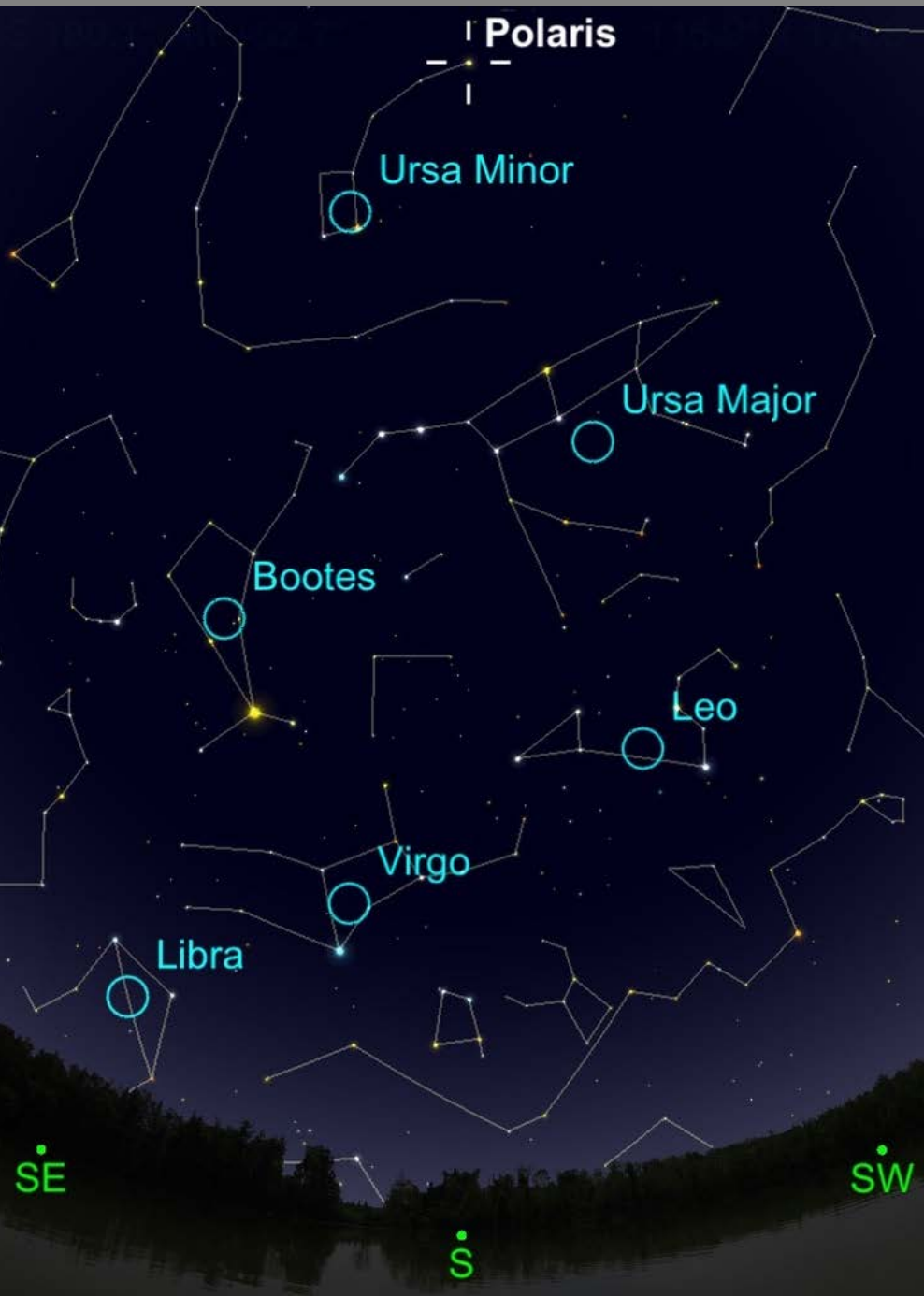


SV535 (105mm FL) + camera
with APS-C sensor

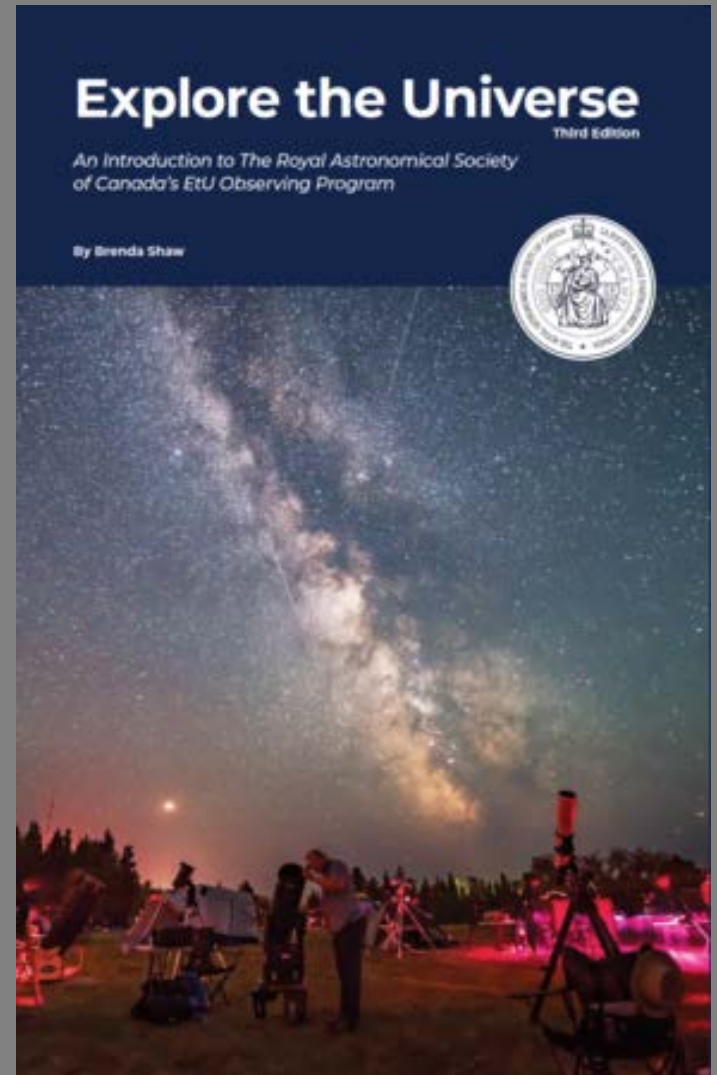
The Lyrid Meteor Shower

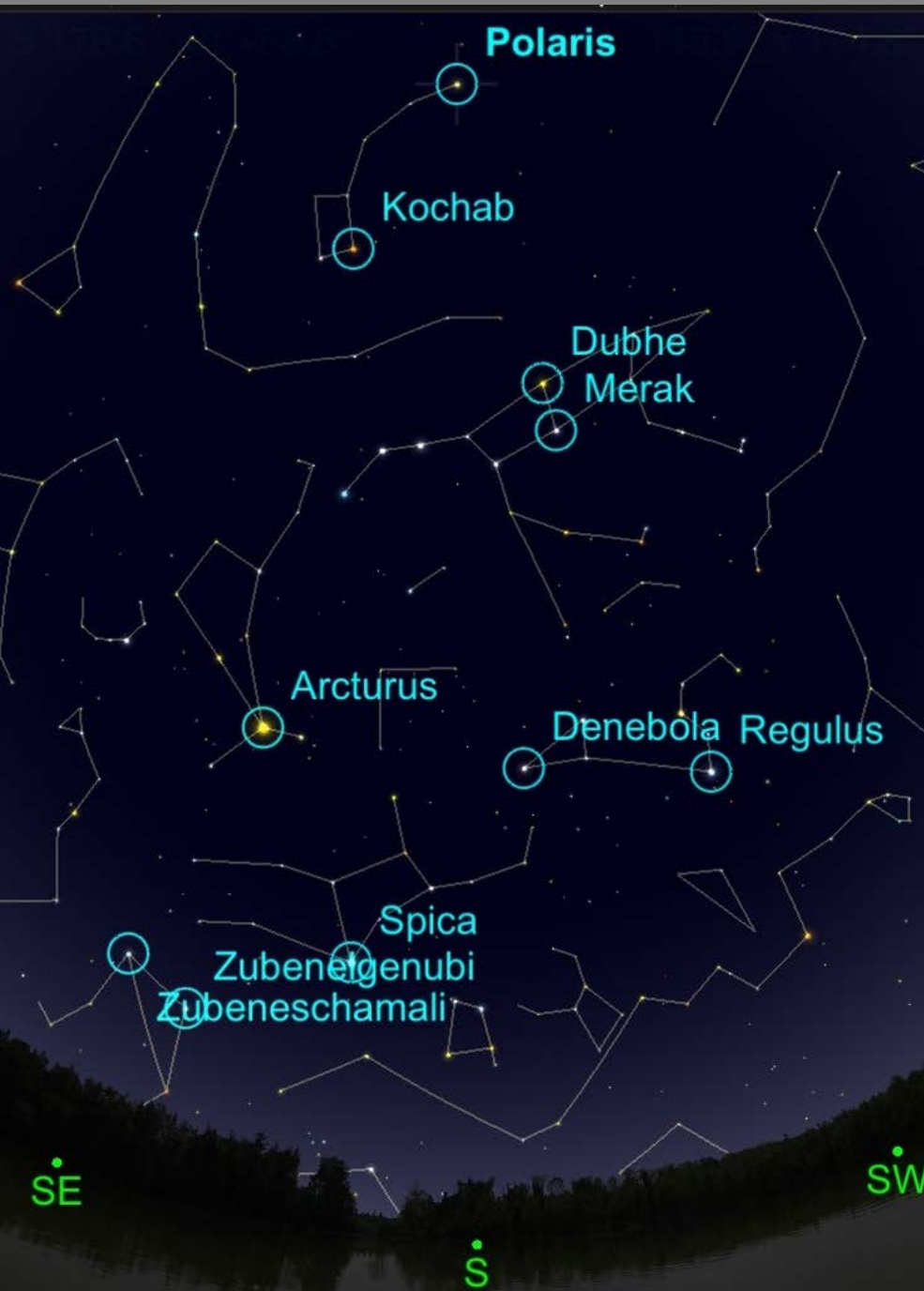
- Lyrid radiant is in Lyra; predicted peak on April 22 at 2 am AST
- expect 10-15 meteors per hour at the peak, although there may be bursts of up to 100 meteors per hour and fireballs are possible
- best time to view is after midnight (moonset is before midnight)
- comet C/1861 G1 (Thatcher) is the parent object





Explore the Universe: Spring Constellations





Explore the Universe:

Spring Stars

Ranking:

#3 Arcturus

#14 Spica

#22 Regulus

#37 Dubhe

#48 Polaris

- Denebola

- Zubenelgenubi

- Zubeneschamali

Halifax, NS

22 Apr 2026 @ 10:30 pm

Explore the Universe:

Spring Deep-Sky

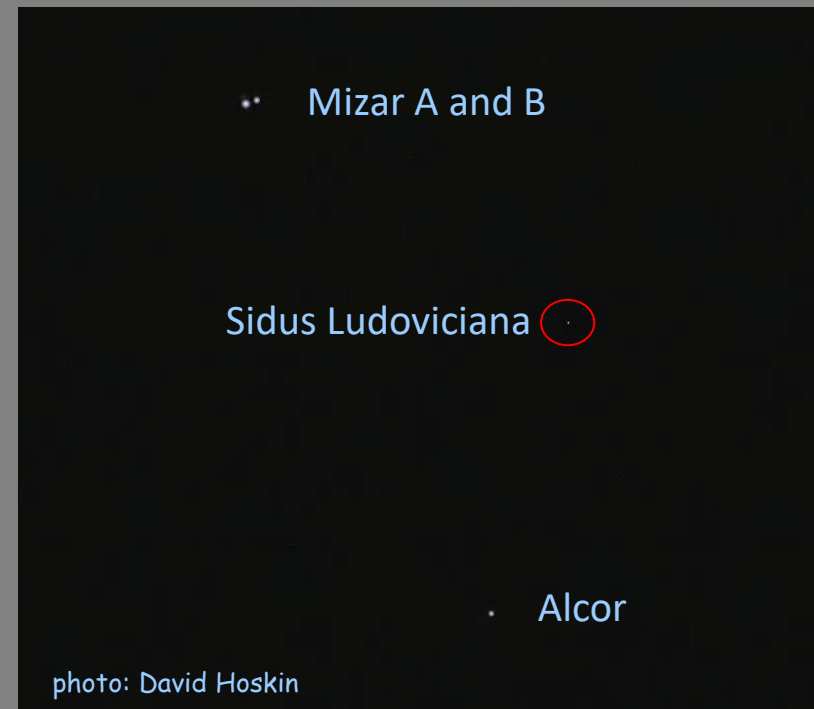
Coma Star Cluster (Melotte 111,
Collinder 256)

Look south of the 4.4 mag. star
 γ Coma Berenices
(view in binoculars in dark sky)



Explore the Universe: Double and Multiple Stars

- Mizar, the 2nd mag. middle star in the Big Dipper's handle, is a visual double star. It may not be gravitationally bound with 4th mag. Alcor
- a telescope reveals a close-in companion of Mizar
- Mizar A and B, as well as Alcor, are unresolved double stars; in total, a 6-star system
- 8th mag. Sidus Ludoviciana lies between Mizar and Alcor



Questions?

