

Some Targets for the LAAS Public Star Party on Saturday, July 13, 2013

Sunset at 8:06 p.m. PDT

At 9:00 p.m. PDT, Sidereal Time (Right Ascension at Griffith Observatory's Meridian) is 15 hrs. 36 mins.

SHOWCASE OBJECTS

The Moon

5 days old (1st Quarter is at 8:18 p.m. PDT on July 15); in western Virgo, midway between Venus & Saturn.

Prominent features near the terminator: large, rough-floored crater Posidonius in the North;

crater Plinius north of the equator and 3-crater chain of Theophilus, Cyrillus & Catharina south of it.

Venus In Leo, west of Regulus; already low in the western sky at sunset.

Saturn In Virgo, east of Spica. Its giant moon Titan is about 6½ Saturn diameters west of the planet at 9:00 p.m. PDT.

MULTIPLE STARS

(SAO Numbers are included for use by computerized go-to mounts)

Prominent white doubles:

Mizar (Zeta (ζ) UMa; in Ursa Major; SAO # 028737; 13:23.9 +54:56)

Zeta (ζ) CrB (in Corona Borealis; SAO # 064833; 15:39.4 +36:38; some see the secondary as faintly blue)

Graffias (Beta (β) Sco; in Scorpius; SAO # 159682; 16:05.4 -19:48)

Rho (ρ) Her (in Hercules; SAO # 066000; 17:23.7 +37:09)

95 Her (in Hercules; SAO # 085647; 18:01.5 +21:36)

Epsilon (ε) 1 & 2 Lyr (the "double-double"; in Lyra; SAO # 067309 & 067315; 18:44.3 +39:40)

Prominent doubles of various colors:

Izar (Epsilon (ε) Boo (yellow & blue; magnitude differential challenge; in Boötes, SAO # 083500; 14:45.0 +27:04)

Rasalgethi (Alpha (α) Her; orange-red & blue-green; in Hercules; SAO # 102680; 17:14.6 +14:23)

Albireo (Beta (β) Cyg; orange & blue; in Cygnus; SAO # 087301; 19:30.7 +27:58)

Triple Stars:

Nu (ν) Sco (in Scorpius; SAO # 159764; 16:12.0 -19:28; this is actually a double-double in some telescopes)

16-17 Dra (in Draco; SAO # 030013; 16:36.2 +52:55; two widely separated stars of which one is a tight double)

NEBULAE WITH ASSOCIATED STAR CLUSTERS

In Sagittarius: M8 ("Lagoon"); and M17 ("Omega" or "Swan").

In Serpens Cauda: M16 ("Eagle").

OTHER PROMINENT OPEN CLUSTERS

In binoculars or rich field telescopes: "Coathanger" asterism (Cr 399 in Vulpecula; 19:26.2 +20:06)

In other telescopes: NGC 6633 & IC 4665 in Ophiuchus. M6 ("butterfly"), M7 & NGC 6231 in Scorpius.

M21, M23 & M25 in Sagittarius. M11 (the "wild duck cluster") in Scutum.

PROMINENT GLOBULAR CLUSTERS

M3 in Canes Venatici. M5 in Serpens Caput. M10 & M12 in Ophiuchus.

M4 in Scorpius. M13 in Hercules. M22 in Sagittarius.

GALAXIES THAT MIGHT BE VISIBLE IN URBAN SKIES

M51 & M63 in Canes Venatici.

RED CARBON STARS

(SAO Numbers are included for use by computerized go-to mounts)

V CrB (in Corona Borealis, SAO # 064929; 15:49.5 +39:34; a variable star that may still be too faint)

T Lyr (in Lyra; SAO # 067087; 18:32.3 + 37:00; a variable star usually between mags. 7.5 and 9.0)

Compiled by Herbert Kraus