

What's Up, Doc? †

January, 2013

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This document tells you what objects are visible this next month for many of the Astronomical League Clubs. If you are working on one of the more advanced clubs, then I assume that you are also probably tracking where your objects are all the time. This concentrates on the more the common and starter level clubs.

Naked-Eye Clubs

Meteors – any night, any time, anywhere; the darker the sky the better. Major showers are in **BOLD**:

<u>Shower</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Type</u>
Quadrantids	1/1 to 1/5	1/3	Major
Zeta Aurigids	12/11 to 1/21	12/31 & 1/1	Minor
January Bootids	1/9 to 1/18	1/16 to 1/18	Minor
Alpha Centaurids	1/28 to 2/21	2/8	Minor
Delta Cancrids	12/14 to 2/14	1/17	Minor
Canids	1/13 to 1/30	1/24 & 1/25	Minor
Eta Carinids	1/14 to 1/27	1/21 & 1/22	Minor
Eta Craterids	1/11 to 1/22	1/16 & 1/17	Minor
January Draconids	1/10 to 1/24	1/13 to 1/16	Minor
Rho Geminids	12/28 to 1/28	1/8 & 1/9	Minor
Alpha Hydrids	1/15 to 1/30	1/20 & 1/21	Minor
Alpha Leonids	1/13 to 2/13	1/24 to 1/31	Minor
Gamma Velids	1/1 to 1/17	1/5 to 1/8	Minor

Constellations, Northern Skies – any night, any time, anywhere, the darker the sky the better.

Last Chance: Cygnus, Lyra, Vulpecula, Sagitta, Delphinus, Equuleus, Aquarius, Piscis Austrinus.

Transit: Camelopardalis, Perseus, Aries, Taurus, Eridanus, Fornax, .

New Arrivals: Lynx, Ursa Major, Leo Minor, Cancer, Canis Minor, Monoceros, Canis Major, Columba.

Binocular Clubs

Binocular Messier – Monthly highlights include:

Easy – 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 52, 67, 103

Medium – 33, 78, 79, 81, 82

Hard – 1, 32, 97

Big Binoculars – 77, 108, 110

Deep Sky Binocular – Monthly highlights include:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60

Other Clubs

Messier In addition to those listed under Binocular Messier, check out: 43, 74, 76

Caldwell

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 30, 31, 33, 39, 41, 43, 44, 46, 49, 50, 51, 54, 56, 58, 62, 64, 65, 67, 70, 73

Double Star

2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 16, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 30, 32, 33, 34, 40, 42, 46, 47, 49, 50, 53, 55, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 85, 89, 95, 99

Other Clubs (continued)

Planetary – These are the tasks that can be done this month:

Sun – Any clear day is a good time to get those sunspots.

Moon:

The Maria requirement can be done any time the moon is visible. Look after 1/18 and before 1/4 for the fullest views.

The Highlands requirement can be done at the same time.

The Crater Ages requirement is best done on 1/17 or 1/18.

The Scarps requirement is best done on 1/19.

Occultations occur all the time, the bright ones can be found on the internet. Objects disappear on the East side of the moon.

Mercury, Venus, and Pluto are not visible in the evening sky this month.

Sunset is at 1742 CT.

Ceres is in Taurus and rises at 05:10 by mid-month.

Mars is in Capricorn and sets at 19:22 by mid-month.

Jupiter is in Taurus and sets at 03:53 by mid-month.

Saturn is in Libra and rises at 01:43 by mid-month.

Uranus is in Pisces and sets at 23:07 by mid-month.

Neptune is in Aquarius and sets at 20:32 by mid-month.

Asteroids – Course Plotting and Measuring Movement requirements can be done at any time on any asteroid. See above to identify the bright ones this month.

Lunar

Key timings are indicated below: (New Moon, January 11, 2013 at 13:44 CT)

4 days, 1/15 7 days, 1/18 10 days, 1/21 14 days, 1/25

Old moon in new moons arms – before 13:44 CT on 1/14, 10 % illuminated. (72 hr > New)

New moon in old moons arms – after 13:44 CT on 1/8, 10 % illuminated. (72 hr < New)

Waxing Crescent – before 05:44 CT on 1/13, 4 % illuminated. (40 hr > New)

Waning Crescent – after 13:44 CT on 1/9, 4 % illuminated. (48 hr < New)

Clubs Not Covered

* ARP Peculiar Galaxies	Earth Orbiting Satellites	Master Observer
Constellation Hunter – South	* Universe Sampler	* Herschel 400
* Galaxy Groups & Clusters	* Sky Puppies	* Herschel II
* Southern Skies Binocular	* Urban	Sunspotters
* Southern Skies Telescope	* Open Cluster	* Globular Cluster
* Planetary Nebulae	Lunar II	

* - Although these clubs are not detailed in this “**What’s Up Doc?**” handout, you can get information on many of their objects by using the “**What’s Up Tonight, Doc?**” spreadsheet (version 5.0). To get your copy, talk to the Doc: Aaron Clevenson, by sending an email to aaron@clevenson.org

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