

# Skokie Valley Astronomers

## The Star Gazette

<https://SkokieValleyAstronomers.org/>

**Always check the Meetings page of the website for the latest information!**

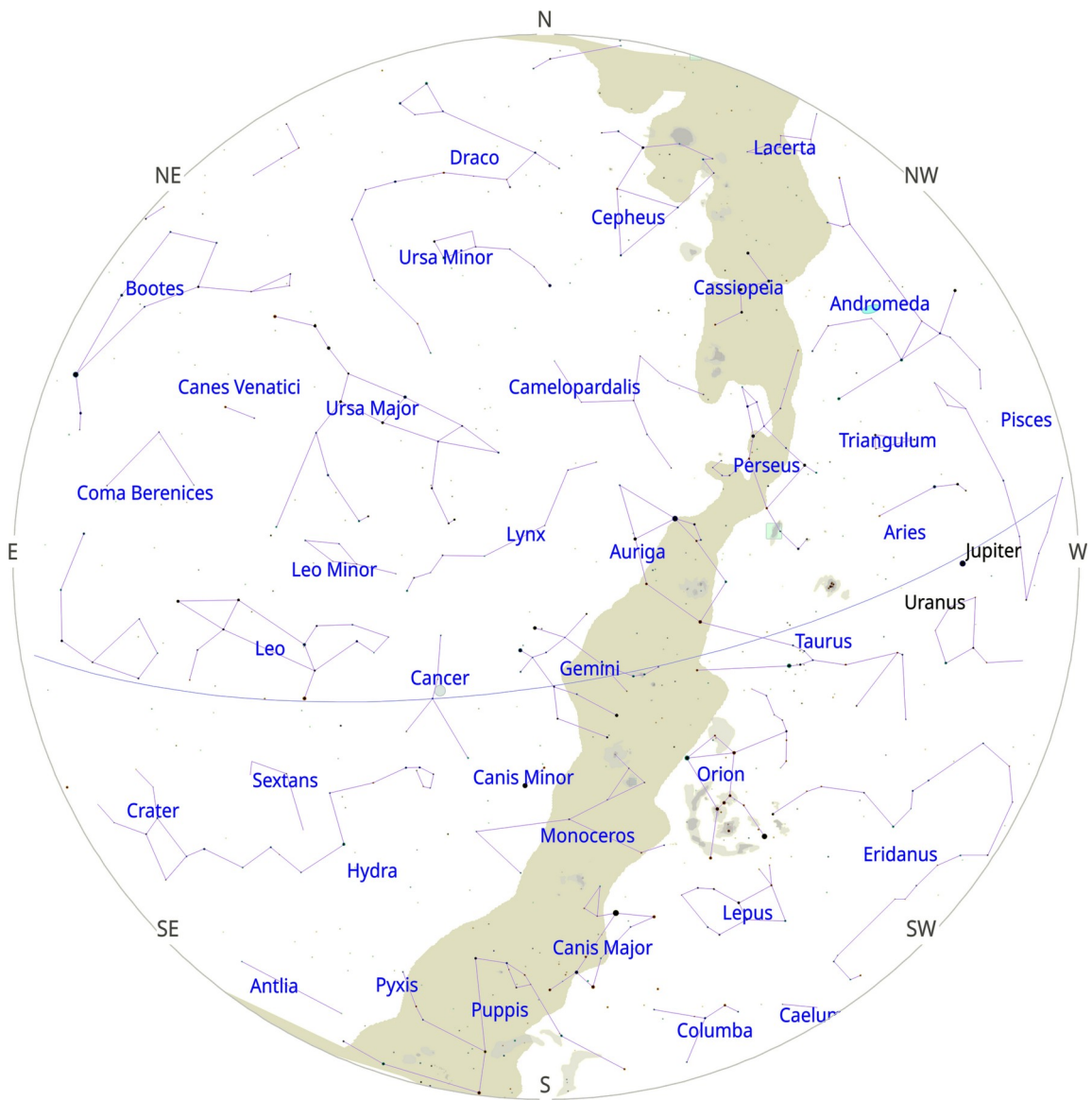
Our next meeting, **Friday, February 9, 2024, 7:30 PM**, will be hybrid: online via Zoom and in-person at the Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd, Glenview, IL, 60025, in the Community Room East on the first floor. Free parking is available. Please check the website Meetings page for the latest information and Zoom link.

How might we define life in a way that is independent of biology and chemistry? To recognize a signal from intelligent life we need to understand intelligence and communication. Club member **Jeff Schmitz** will present how both “intelligence” and “life” could be “functions” which might be used to develop practical procedures to identify life and intelligence.

### **Can Mathematics Define Life and Intelligence?**

Skokie Valley Astronomer club dues are \$30 per year, which runs from April to March. Please check your mailing label. Does it say **“member through March 2024”**? If not, please consider becoming a member.

2024 Date	Talk	Speaker	Moon Elongation and Phase
March 8	A History of Imaging the Crab Nebula The Crab Nebula has been a part of human experience since 1054 AD. With the advent of the telescope, people began to image it, first by drawing what could be observed, then by visual photography, and finally in just about every part of the electromagnetic spectrum. Each image brought us closer to truly understanding this natural wonder. Club member Dale Dellutri will talk about the long history of its imaging.	Dale Dellutri	18°W – New Moon
May 10	An Autumn Skies Comet Comet C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS) will visit our neighborhood in the solar system in September-October 2024. It may become bright enough to be seen with the naked eye – possibly even a fairly bright comet. Michelle Nichols, Director of Public Observing at the Adler Planetarium, will talk about what we know about it, when to view it, and what to expect from it (or not) in our late October evenings.	Michelle Nichols	38°E – New Moon
July 12	Capturing the Stars: The Untold History of Women at Yerkes Observatory Women contributed to the advancement of astronomy and astrophysics at Yerkes Observatory in the early twentieth century. Women were not only calculators or assistants; they earned degrees, conducted their own research, collaborated on projects with peers of both sexes, worked on publications, and used their time at Yerkes to launch a wide range of careers. Their lives and labor are all but invisible in public records, but their contributions to science—and their voices—are preserved in archival collections studied by an interdisciplinary team at the University of Chicago. In this presentation, Andrea Twiss-Brooks, Director of Humanities and Area Studies at the University of Chicago Library will explore the scientific work and the lived experiences of women who contributed to the advancement of astronomy and astrophysics in early twentieth century America.	Andrea Twiss-Brooks	81°E – First Quarter
October 11	Wonders of Webb: Exploring the Universe with JWST Following the successful launch and deployment of the James Webb Space Telescope, astronomers have explored new vistas and aspects of the Universe made possible with this remarkable instrument. Club member Jim Kovac will lead an exploration with this new eye on the Universe.	Jim Kovac	106°E – First Quarter



Universal Time (UTC): Saturday 2024-02-10 04:00:00  
 UTC Adjustment (Time - UTC): -06:00

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 Date, Time: Friday 2024-02-09 22:00:00  
 Longitude: West 87.91556° = 87° 54' 56"  
 Latitude: North 42.18194° = 42° 10' 55"  
 Julian Day: 2460350.66666667 (+100.0s = Dynamical time)  
 Local Sidereal Time: 07h 29.0m  
 Moon Phase: New +2°

Object	--Equinox of Date--		---Horizon---		---Ecliptical--		Angrl Size	Illum
	RA	Dec	Azimuth	Alt	Elong	Constel		
Sun	21h 33.1m	-14° 31'	127° NW	-51°		Cap	32.4'	
Mercury	20h 42.7m	-20° 04'	139° NW	-62°	13° W	Cap	4.9"	94%
Venus	19h 34.8m	-21° 27'	176° N	-68°	29° W	Sgr	11.9"	88%
Mars	19h 59.6m	-21° 31'	160° NNW	-67°	23° W	Sgr	4.1"	98%
Jupiter	02h 25.2m	+13° 20'	91° W	+19°	77° E	Ari	38.5"	
Saturn	22h 39.3m	-10° 14'	113° WNW	-37°	17° E	Aqr	15.5"	
Uranus	03h 07.2m	+17° 14'	87° W	+30°	88° E	Ari	3.6"	
Neptune	23h 47.5m	-02° 41'	106° WNW	-19°	35° E	Psc	2.2"	
Pluto	20h 14.1m	-22° 46'	151° NNW	-67°	20° W	Cap	0.1"	
Moon	21h 48.6m	-17° 52'	119° WNW	-51°	2° E	Cap	32.9'	0%