Visual Observer's Guide – August 2024   V0.1

Meeting Date   August 11, 2024

Night Begins	10:27 PM. EDT	*Note: Astronomical Twilight Ends*
Solar Noon / Midnight	1:37 EDT	*Note: on Meeting Date*
Moon Quarters	New 08/04, First 08/12, Full 08/19, Last 08/26	
Darkest Evenings	07/25–08/10 08/24 – 09/09	*Note: 2 days before Last thru 2 days before First*

Viewing Resources

Evening Sky Maps	http://skymaps.com/
Astronomy Forecasts	https://clearoutside.com/forecast/42.82/-83.14
	http://oaklandastronomy.net/ambient_RH.html
Peter Birren's Deep-Sky Fieldbooks	http://www.birrendesign.com/astro.html

Featured Constellation: Aquila and Scutum
A selection from Peter Birren's excellent deep-sky fieldbook, *"Objects in the Heavens", pages 52-53 and 118-119*

Constellation / Item Identifier	Type	Common Name / Details	☆☆ Separation / Size	Season, RA	on Meridian Dec	Abbreviation Mag
Aquila		*the Eagle*	Summer	Aug 30		**AQL**
"All the Galaxy here is strewed with pairs and groups of stars."						
☆☆ *Altair*	α	Optical binary; 16LY	165"	19:51.8	08°55'	.8/10
		6.5 hrs. full rotation – our sun rotates in 25.4 days				
☆ 55/Eta	η	Short period variable, 7 days		19:53.5	01°04'	3.5-4
☆☆ 52/Pi	π	Fine test for 3" reflectors	1.4"	19:49.7	11°52'	6/6.8
☆ V®		! Dark to pale red in 400 days		19:05.5	-05°39'	6.6-8
☆☆ 57		Pale yellow/pale green	36"	19:55.8	-08°11'	6/6.6
☆☆ Σ2404/HR7099		In center of 4☆; both orange	3.6"	18:51.7	11°00'	6/8
○○ NGC6709	**OC**	40☆; round; rich area	13'	18:52.3	10°21'	**6.9**
○ NGC6724	OC	10☆; ring-shaped	4'	18:57.8	10°28'	10.0
○ NGC6735	OC	35☆ in rich but uniform field	12'	19:01.6	-00°26'	8.5
○ NGC6738	OC	Poor; scattered; few bright ☆	15'	19:02.3	11°38'	8.3
○ NGC6755	OC	Small double cluster with NGC6756 in field (4'; mag 10.6)	14'	19:08.8	04°18'	7.5
○ NGC6760	GC	Sparse but identifiable	3.5'	19:12.3	01°04'	9.1
○ BARNARD138	DN	Curved dark lane E of NGC6760	2.7°	19:15.0	00°52'	___
○ Berk 81	OC	80☆ mostly <mag15	7'	19:01.6	-00°31'	9.9
○ **Cr 401**	**OC**	Tiny; beautiful sweeping area	1'	19:39.4	00°23'	**7.0**
○○ BARNARD142	DN	*Barnard's E*, E-shaped nebula	40'	19:40.6	10°34'	___
○ Pal 11	GC	Lg hazy region; nice ☆☆ north	10'	19:46.4	-07°57'	9.8

Scutum   *the Shield*   Summer Aug 15   **SCT**

"Scutum Sobiescianum: This asterism, which worthily associates the memory of the Polish [king and] hero with the most brilliant part of the Galaxy visible in our latitude, is full of splendid telescopic fields; and the very ground of the Milky Way seems here resolvable."

☆ UY		Largest ☆ (2012); 15.9AU diam.		18:27.6	-12°28'	11.2
☆ RX®		Carbon ☆; irregular variable		18:37.7	-07°36'	8.9-11
☆ R		Binoc variable 146 days		18:48.5	-05°41'	4.2-8.6
☆☆ S®		Carbon ☆; S of M11; var148d	14"	18:51.4	-07°53'	6.8-12
☆ T®		Carbon ☆; variable 122 days		18:56.5	-08°10'	8.9-10
⃝⃝**M11** 6705	**OC**	**!!** *Wild Duck*; semi-globular	32'	18:52.1	-06°15'	**5.5**
		Very bright; 3000☆ mag 9-14; fan-shaped; 220MYO				
⃝⃝M26 6694	OC	70☆; rich; bright; compressed	10'	18:46.4	-09°22'	8.2
⃝ NGC6625	OC	Little compressed/rich	20'	18:23.9	-11°56'	9.0
⃝ NGC6649	OC	25☆ mag11-14; little compressed	6'	18:34.5	-10°23'	8.9
⃝ NGC6664	OC	25☆; long; grainy @ 80x	16'	18:37.7	-07°47'	7.8
⃝ NGC6683	OC	12☆ in Scutum Cloud; difficult	3'	18:43.3	-06°11'	9.4
⃝ NGC6704	OC	60☆; bright, near M11	6'	18:51.8	-05°11'	9.2
⃝ NGC6712	GC	Bright, large, resolvable	7.2'	18:54.1	-08°41'	8.1
⃝ Tr 34	OC	Unusual shape; strings	5'	18:40.9	-08°24'	8.6
⃝ Tr 35	OC	20☆; compact; near NGC6683	6'	18:43.9	-04°07'	9.2
⃝⃝**Scutum Star Cloud**; M11 + faint OC inside			3°	18:46.0	-06°30'	**5.0**
⃝ Basel 1	OC	12☆; hazy with dim ☆ at 100x;	5'	18:49.0	-05°50'	8.9
		Near RSCT; nice trapezium surrounds the cluster				