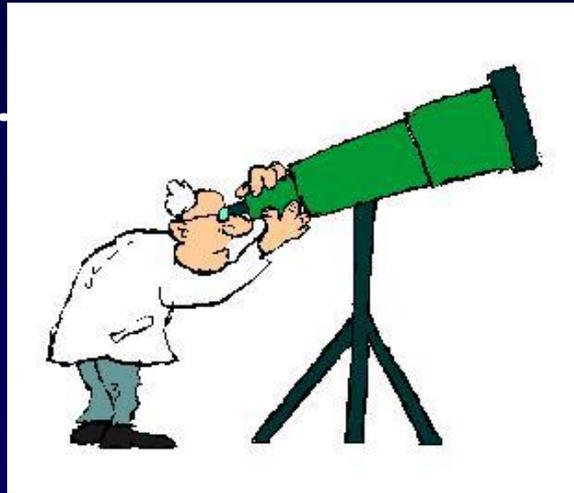


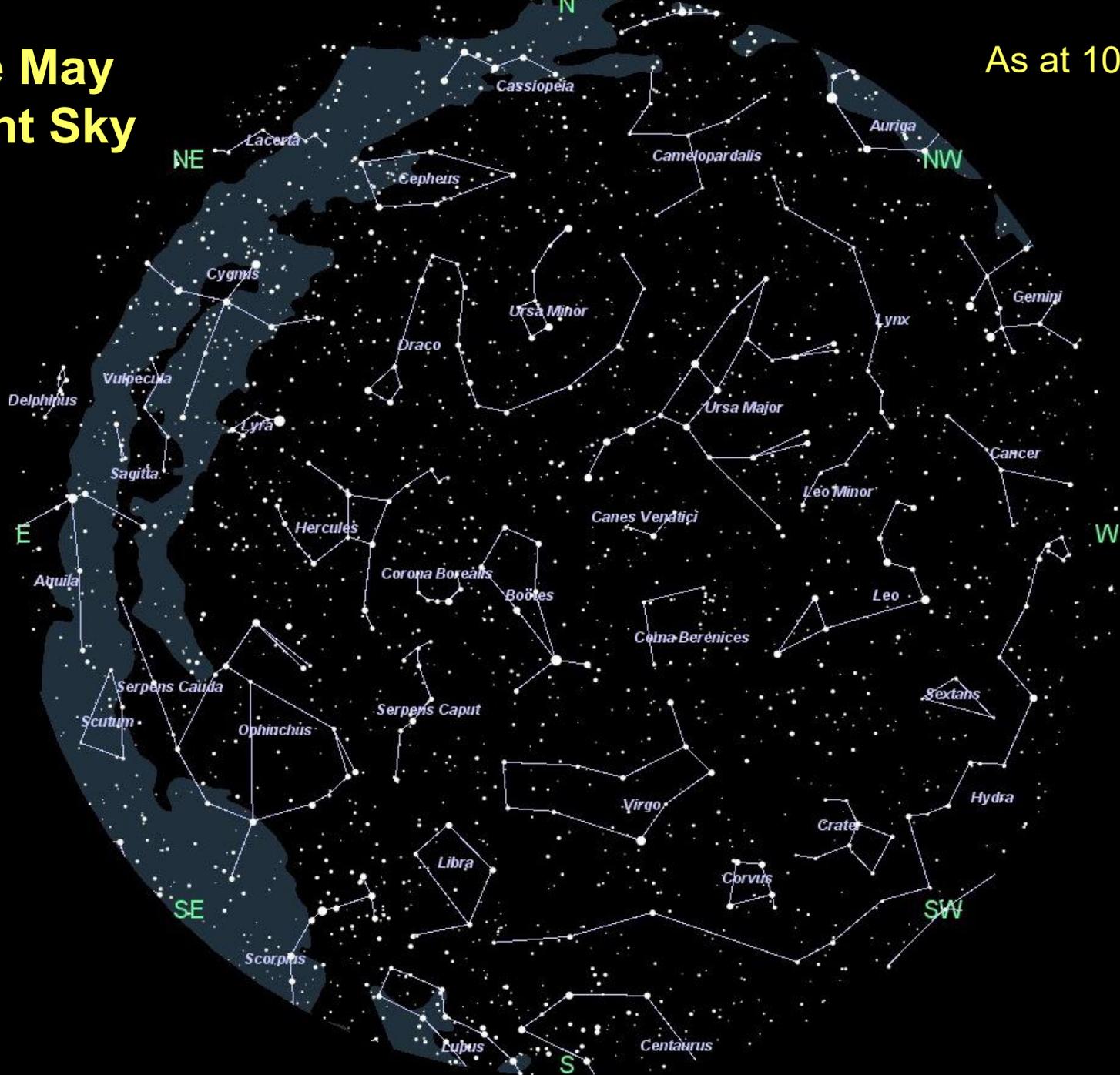
What's Up!

For May 2017

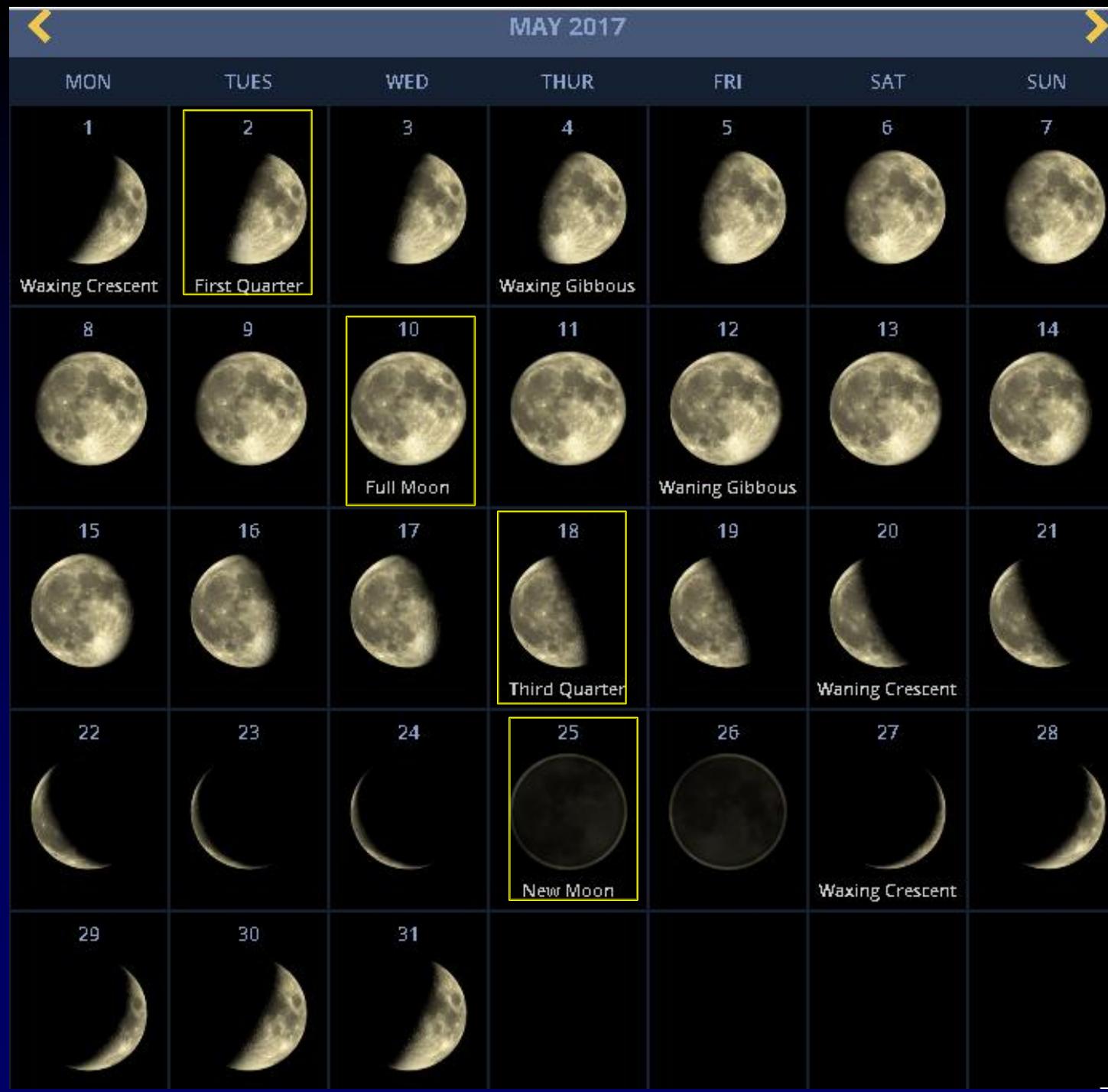


The May Night Sky

As at 10 p.m.



The Moon in May



What's Up - Planets

- **Mercury**

- a dawn object from the middle of the month in the East-North East, brightening to Mag -0.2 at end of month.

- **Venus**

- A brilliant morning object at -4.5 low in the East, rising an 90 mins before the Sun at end of month. Shows a thickening crescent when seen through binos or telescope

- **Mars**

- Low in the West-northwest after sunset, at Mag +1.6. Now in Taurus it passes North of the Hyades at start of month

What's Up - Planets

- Jupiter

- Visible all evening. At Mag -2.4 it dominates the night sky. Easily visible as a disc in binoculars and small telescopes.

- Saturn

- A Mag +0.2 morning object, near the Teapot asterism in Sagittarius at the start of the month, but drifting into Ophiucus by month end. improving as time goes by, but still relatively low at 15°

- Uranus

- Not visible this month

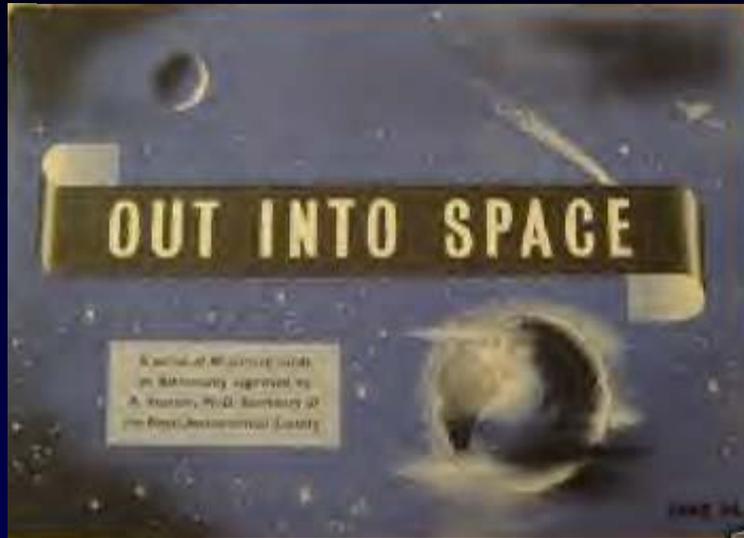
- Neptune

- Not visible this month

Events of Interest in May

- **5th** Max of Eta Aquarids meteor shower. Theoretical max rate of 50 per hour, radiant rises early morning
- **7th** Jupiter very close to the Moon 
- **11&12th** Jupiter's moons Europa & Io transit and cast their shadows onto the disc, from 11.00 pm to 03.00 
- **19th** Comet C/2015 V2 Johnson is about a degree from Delta (δ) Bootis (Mag +3.5). Comet could be at Mag +6.9 
- **27th** Another double shadow transit for Jupiter, by Io & Ganymede. From 19.13 to 03.26 hrs. Europa also reappears out of eclipse during this time. 
- **31st** Moon will be just a degree from Regulus (Mag 1.4) in Leo

May's Suggested Constellation



A SERIES OF 50 No. 28

OUT INTO SPACE

*Approved by A. Hunter, Ph.D.,
Sec. Royal Astronomical Society*

LEO

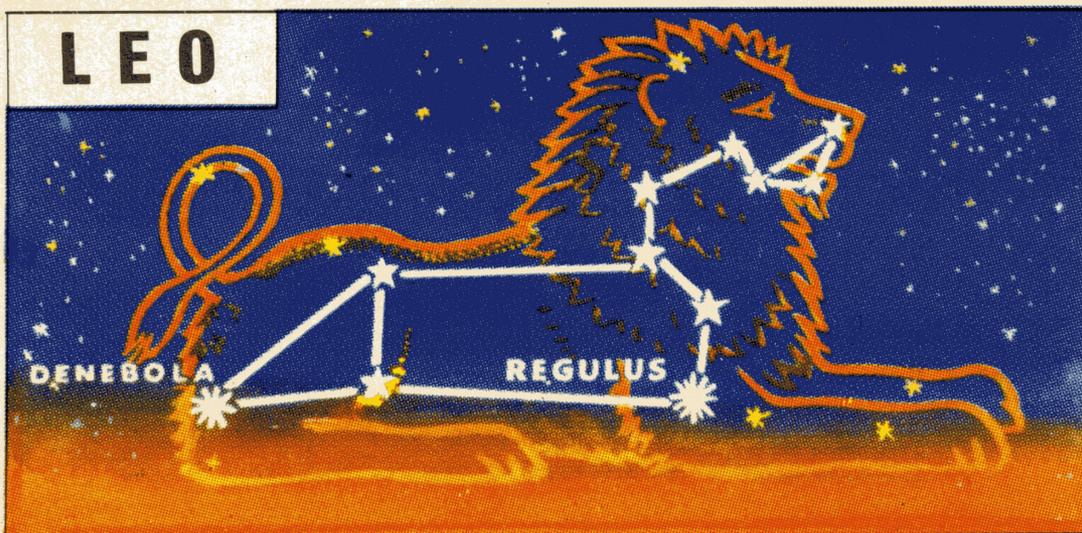
Leo (Lion), fifth sign of the Zodiac, is bounded on the West by Cancer, on the East by Virgo. It is easy to locate . . . a straight line from the Pole Star to Plough Pointers leads to Leo. February to end of June is good time for viewing, but evenings in March and April are best. Principal and very prominent star is Regulus . . . also known as Cor Leonis (Lion's Heart) or Royal Star. Regulus, Gamma Leonis and several smaller stars form a group shaped like a sickle. From near these stars most of November meteor showers known as Leonids radiate.

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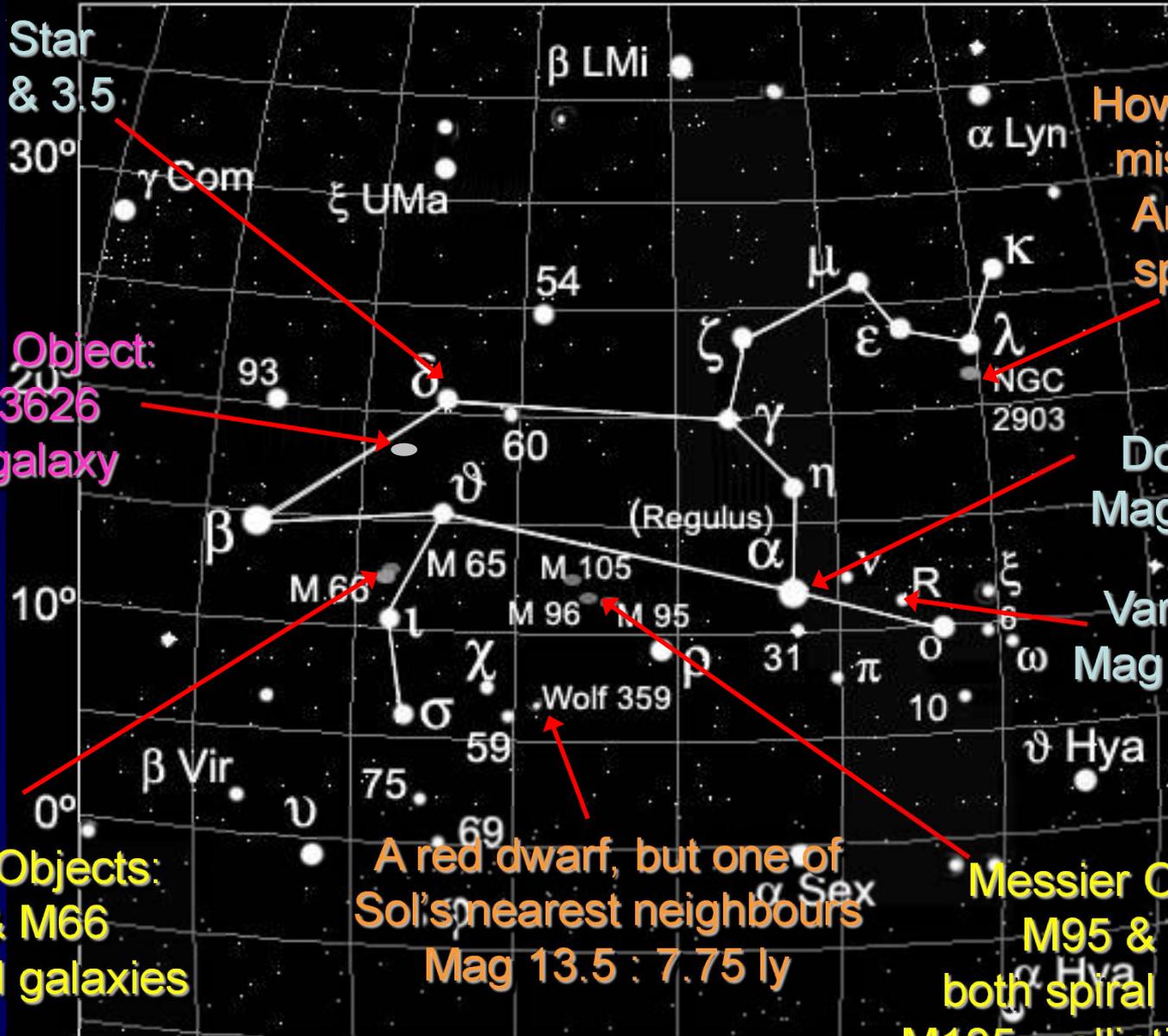
Brooke Bond & Co. Ltd.

LEO



Leo

12^h 11^h 10^h 9^h



Double Star
Mag 2.2 & 3.5

How did Messier miss this one?
Another nice spiral galaxy

Caldwell Object:
* NGC 3626
spiral galaxy

Double Star
Mag -0.7 & 7.7

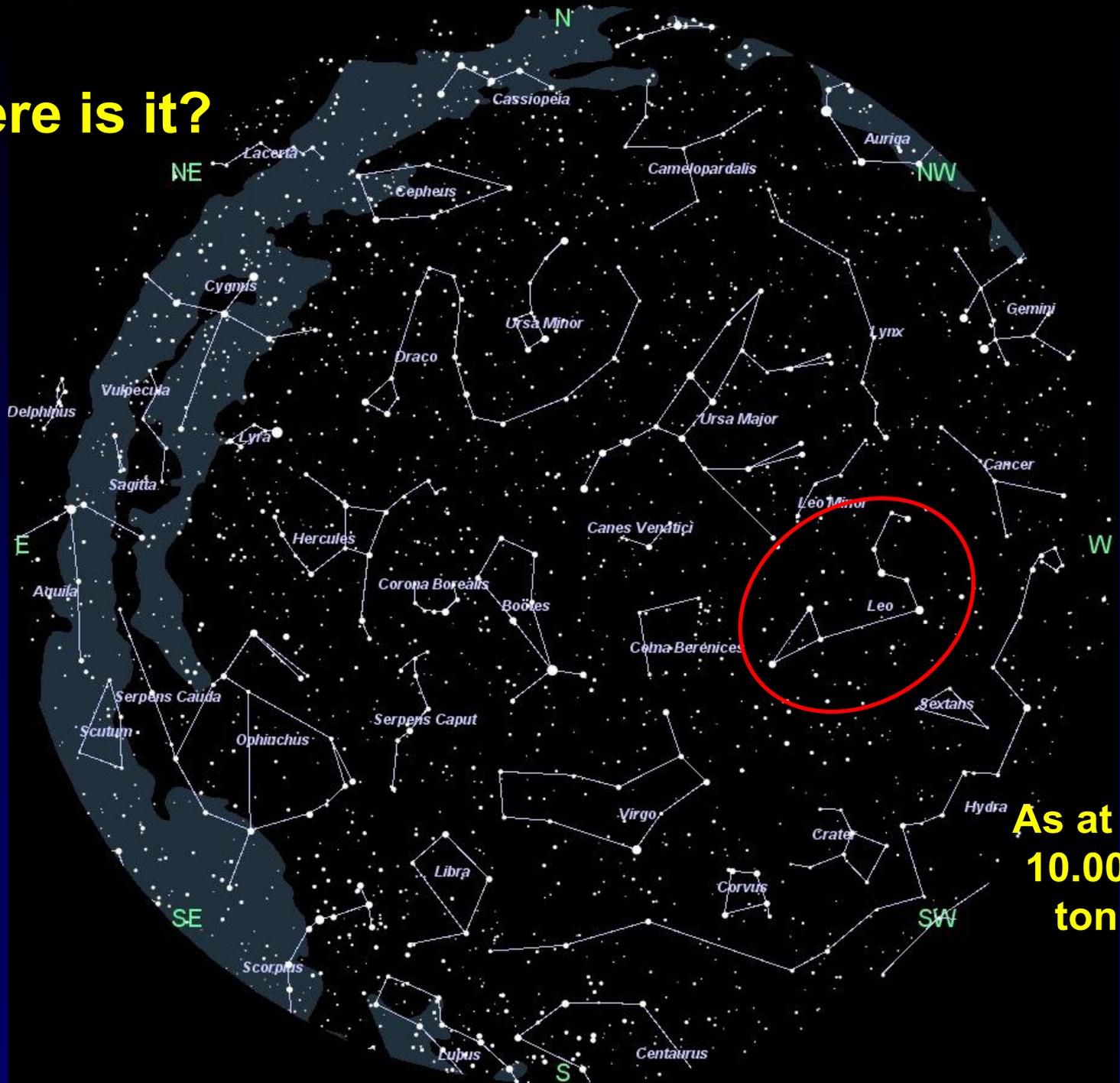
Variable Star
Mag 4.4 → 11.3

Messier Objects:
M65 & M66
both spiral galaxies

A red dwarf, but one of
Sol's nearest neighbours
Mag 13.5 : 7.75 ly

Messier Objects:
M95 & M96
both spiral galaxies
M105 – elliptical galaxy

Where is it?



**As at about
10.00 p.m.
tonight**

The 'Leo Triplet'

M65



M66



NGC6328



Talks at Local Astro Societies

- **Guildford AS** *Griffiths Lecture Theatre , Uni of Surrey*
 - Thursday 4th May, 7.30 p.m.
 - “Is There Life On Proxima b ?”
 - Professor David Waltham
 - » Dept of Earth Science, Royal Holloway
 - » Uni of London
- **Farnham AS** *Aldershot Cricket Club*
 - Tuesday 9th May, 7.45 p.m.
 - “JUICE - A Mission To Jupiter's Icy Moons”
 - Dr. Adam Masters, Imperial College

Talks at Local Astro Societies

- **Croydon AS** *Royal Russell School, Coombe Lane, Croydon*
 - Friday 26th May, 7.45 p.m.
 - “Techniques to study large-scale magnetic fields”
 - Jennifer Chan
 - » Mullard Space Sciences Laboratory, UCL
- **Ewell AS** *Nonsuch High School for Girls, Cheam*
 - Friday 12th May, 8.00 p.m.
 - “The Art of Astrophotography”
 - Prof Ian Morison, Uni of Manchester

Astronomy on TV

- **The Sky at Night**

- *60th Anniversary*

- An hour long special celebrating the programme's diamond anniversary.
 - Episode now available on BBC iPlayer
 - Regular presenters Chris Lintott and Maggie Aderin-Pocock are joined by Jim Al-Khalili and Dallas Campbell, looking at the developments in spaceflight and astronomy during the programme's 60 year history.

NB There's no *Sky at Night* in May, but it returns in June