

The background of the slide is a deep space photograph showing a vast field of stars. Several prominent features are visible: a bright, glowing red and white nebula in the upper left; a cluster of bright blue stars in the upper right; a faint, diffuse blue and white star cluster in the lower right; and a reddish, irregularly shaped nebula in the lower left. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

# The Messier Objects & Messier Marathon



## Charles Messier

(1730-1817)

a French astronomer who catalogues a 100 diffuse objects that were difficult to distinguish from comets due to the limited ability of the telescopes of his day.

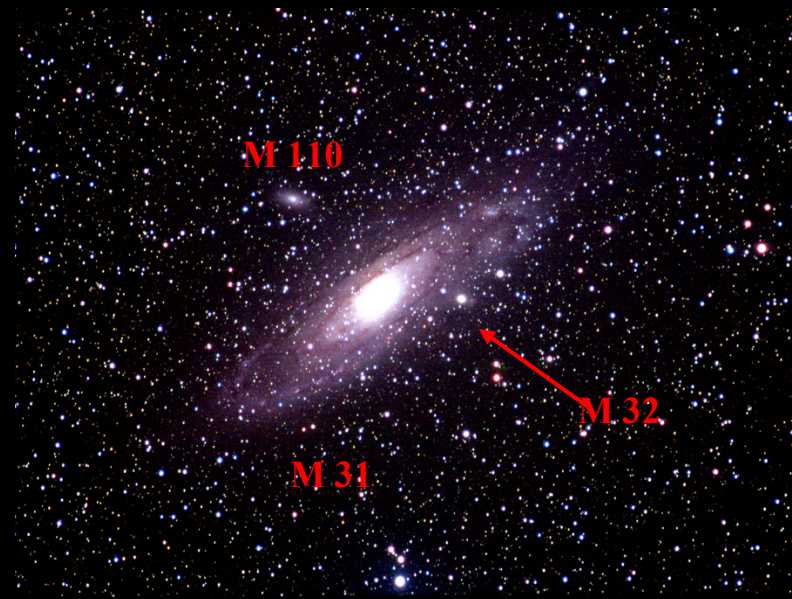
- The first list was published in 1774 with objects M 1 - M 45
- A subsequent list added object through M 68 published in 1780 along with a supplement to add M 69 & M 70
- The final list was published 1781 with M 1- M 103
- In 1881 Messier had planned to add to the list object seen with M 97 and come to a total of 109 objects.
- Today the List is comprised of 110 objects.

# The Final Current Messier List

Additional objects were added based on Charles Messier notes and other astronomers of his time to bring the list to M104-M109 were added by others of his time and 108 & 109 were added/discovered in 1871-1872

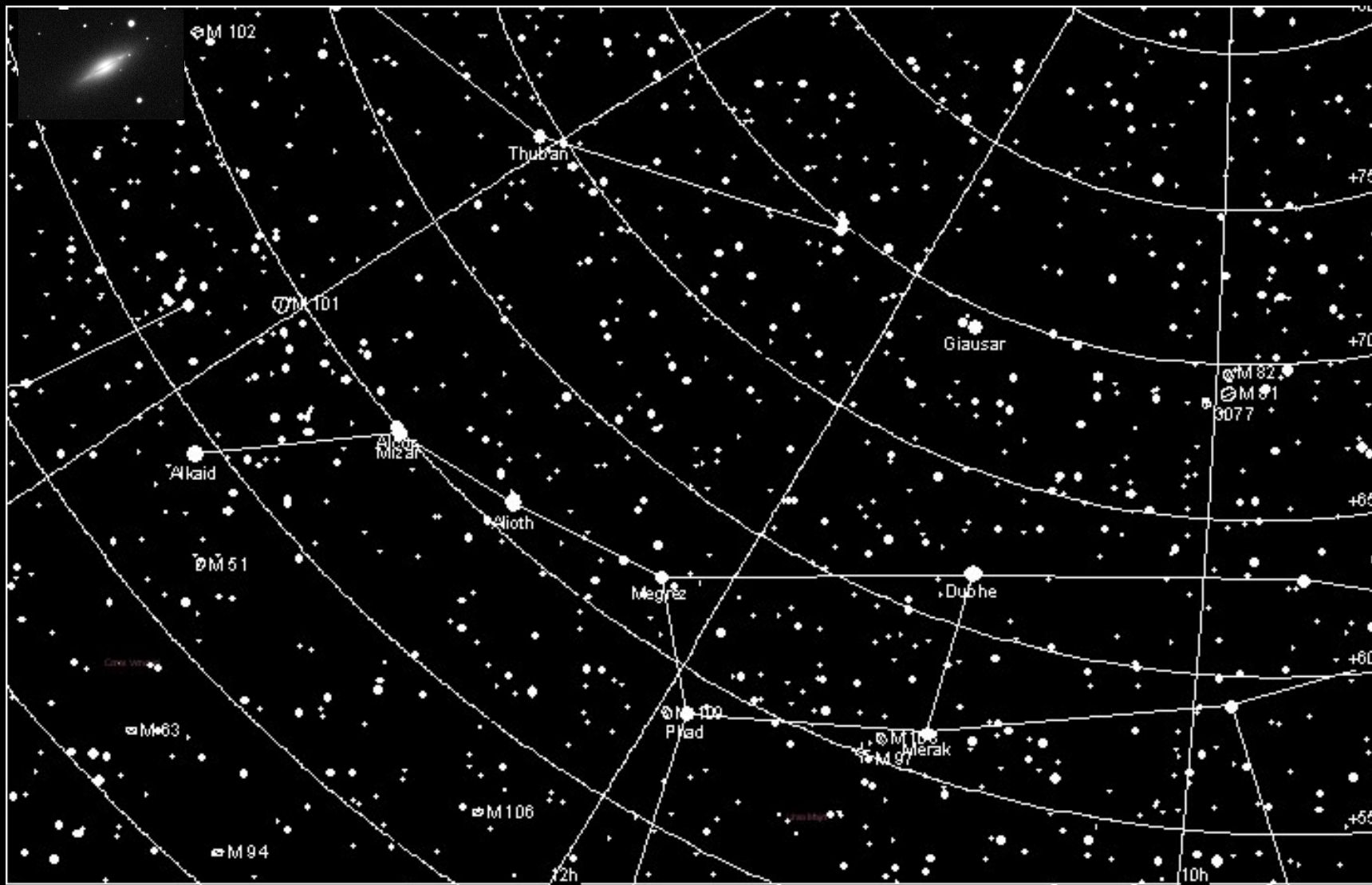
M110 was added in 1966 by Kenneth Glyn Jones.

M102 location & identification has been the item of dispute with M 101 being called M 102 through an 18th century error. Some list M 101 (NGC 5457) as M 102 "The Messier Album" by Mallas & Kreimer



# M 102 ?

At present some charts like “Sky & Telescope’s Messier Card”  
lists M 102 as a duplicate of M 101  
Others list NGC 5866 as M 102



**The Astronomical League**  
**Sponsors several types of wards**



**Binocular Messier Club Certificate: Any 50 of the 110 Objects**

**The Messier Club Certificate: 70 Objects**

**The Messier Club Honorary Certificate: All 110 Objects**



**Why get a certificate**

**What is it all About?**



# Log Examples

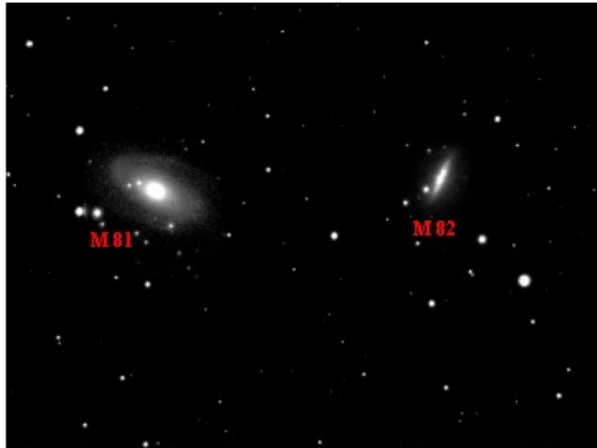
(No visual Observations)

M-81



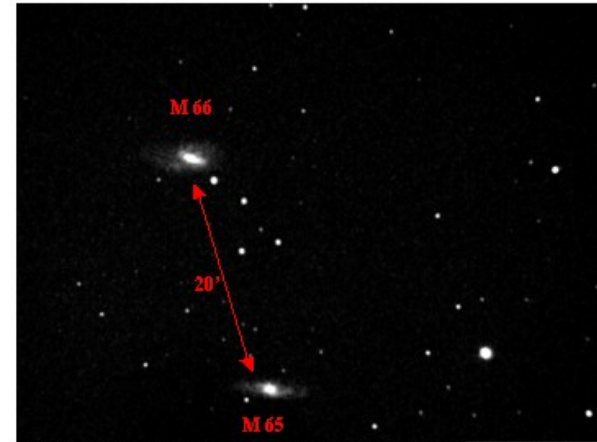
06-04-2001 00:12:32 11" ST5c (60sec.). Used Atlas2000 & Mega-Star to locate M 81 Galaxy in Ursa Major (NGC 3031).  
 Pine Mountain, Bend, Or. Longitude 120° 56' 20" Latitude 43° 47' 30"  
 Conditions: Clear Magnitude: 6.5 Visual: 11" @ 70x  
 Magnitude 7.9 21 x 10 Minuets of Arc 7 Million Light Years

M-82



09-22-2001 05:25:27 ST80 mm F/5 ST237a (.595 reducer) 60 sec.  
 Used Mega-Star to locate M82 in Ursa Major (NGC 3034)  
 Pine Mountain, Bend, Or. Longitude 120° 56' 20" Latitude 43° 47' 30"  
 Conditions: Clear Magnitude: 6.5 Visual: 11" @ 70x  
 Magnitude 8.8 9 x 4 Minuets of Arc 7 Million Light Years

M-65



03-03-2002 22:38:05Takahashi FS78 F/4.8 ST237A CCD 8x15  
 Atlas2000 & Mega-Star, M 65 Galaxy in Leo (NGC 3623), along with M 66.  
 Eugene, Or. Longitude 123° 8' Latitude 44° 6'  
 Conditions: Clear Magnitude: 5 Visual: 11" @ 70x  
 Magnitude 10.0 8 x 1.5 Minuets of Arc 29 Million Light Years

M-66



03-03-2002 22:38:05Takahashi FS78 F/4.8 r ST237A CCD  
 Atlas2000 & Mega-Sta, M 66 Galaxy in Leo (NGC 3627), along with M 65.  
 Eugene, Or. Longitude 123° 8' Latitude 44° 6'  
 Conditions: Clear Magnitude: 5 Visual: 11" @ 70x  
 Magnitude 9.7 8 x 2.5 Minuets of Arc 29 Million Light Years

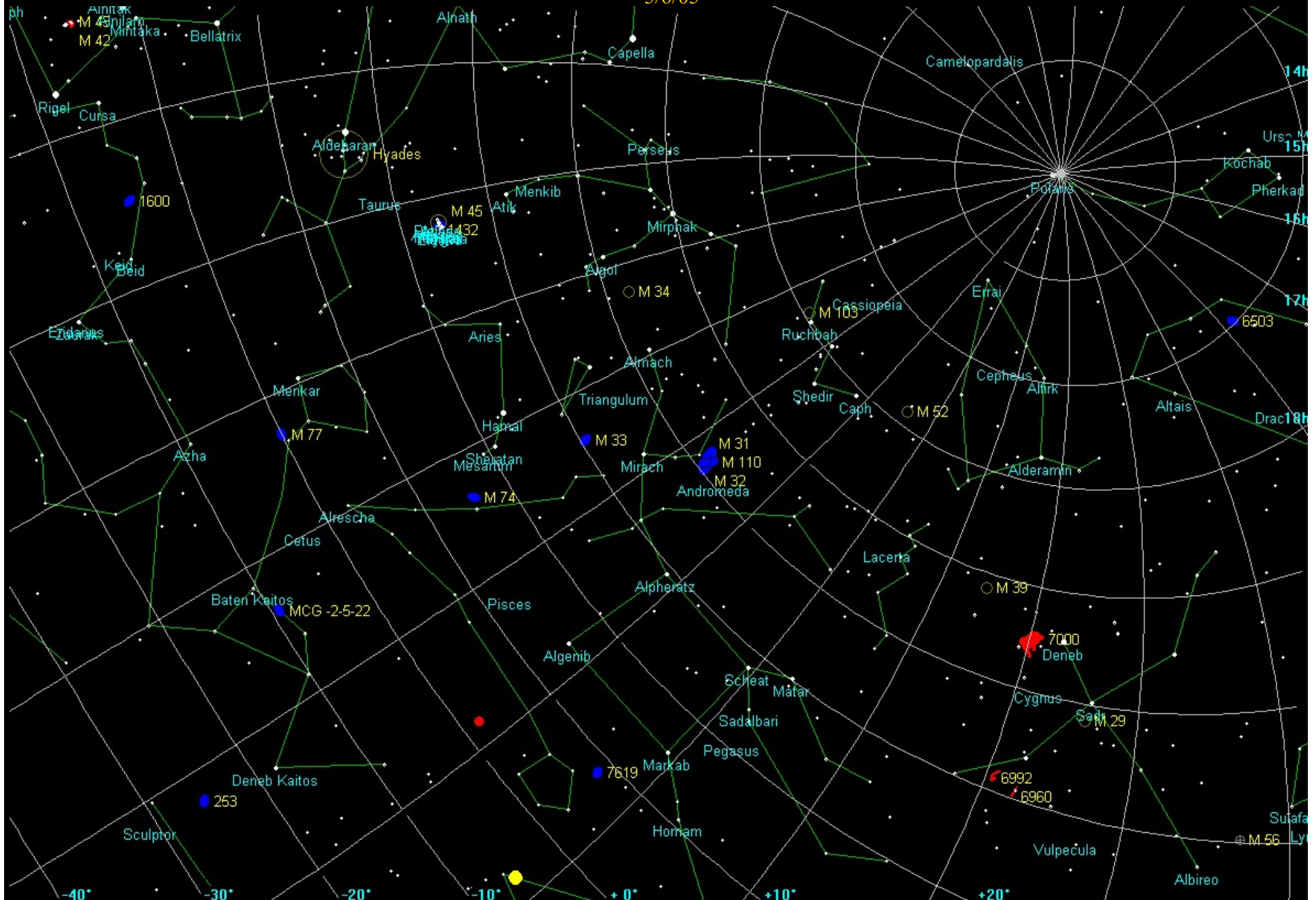
## Let's Get Started

1. M77	21. M41	41. M94	61. M59	81. M9	101. M69
2. M74	22. M93	42. M63	62. M60	82. M4	102. M70
3. M33	23. M47	43. M51	63. M49	83. M80	103. M54
4. M31	24. M46	44. M101	64. M61	84. M19	104. M55
5. M32	25. M50	45. M102?	65. M104	85. M62	105. M75
6. M110	26. M48	46. M53	66. M68	86. M6	106. M15
7. M52	27. M44	47. M64	67. M83	87. M7	107. M2
8. M103	28. M67	48. M3	68. M5	88. M11	108. M72
9. M76	29. M95	49. M98	69. M13	89. M26	109. M73
10. M34	30. M96	50. M99	70. M92	90. M16	110. M30
11. M45	31. M105	51. M100	71. M57	91. M17	
12. M79	32. M65	52. M85	72. M56	92. M18	
13. M42	33. M66	53. M84	73. M29	93. M24	
14. M43	34. M81	54. M86	74. M39	94. M25	
15. M78	35. M82	55. M87	75. M27	95. M23	
16. M1	36. M97	56. M89	76. M71	96. M21	
17. M35	37. M108	57. M90	77. M107	97. M20	
18. M37	38. M109	58. M88	78. M12	98. M8	
19. M36	39. M40	59. M91	79. M10	99. M28	
20. M38	40. M106	60. M58	80. M14	100. M22	



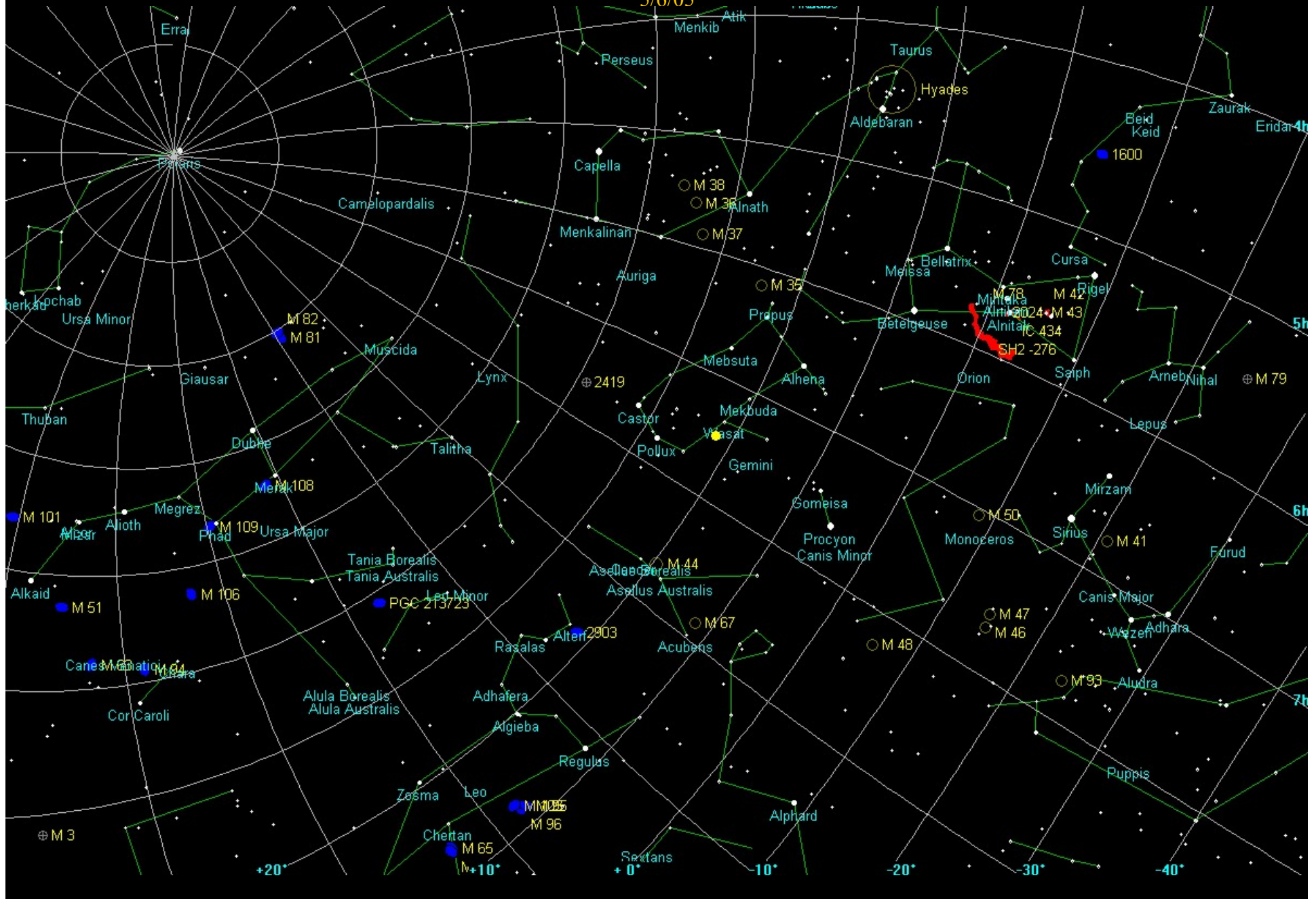
# “West” Sunset

5/6/05



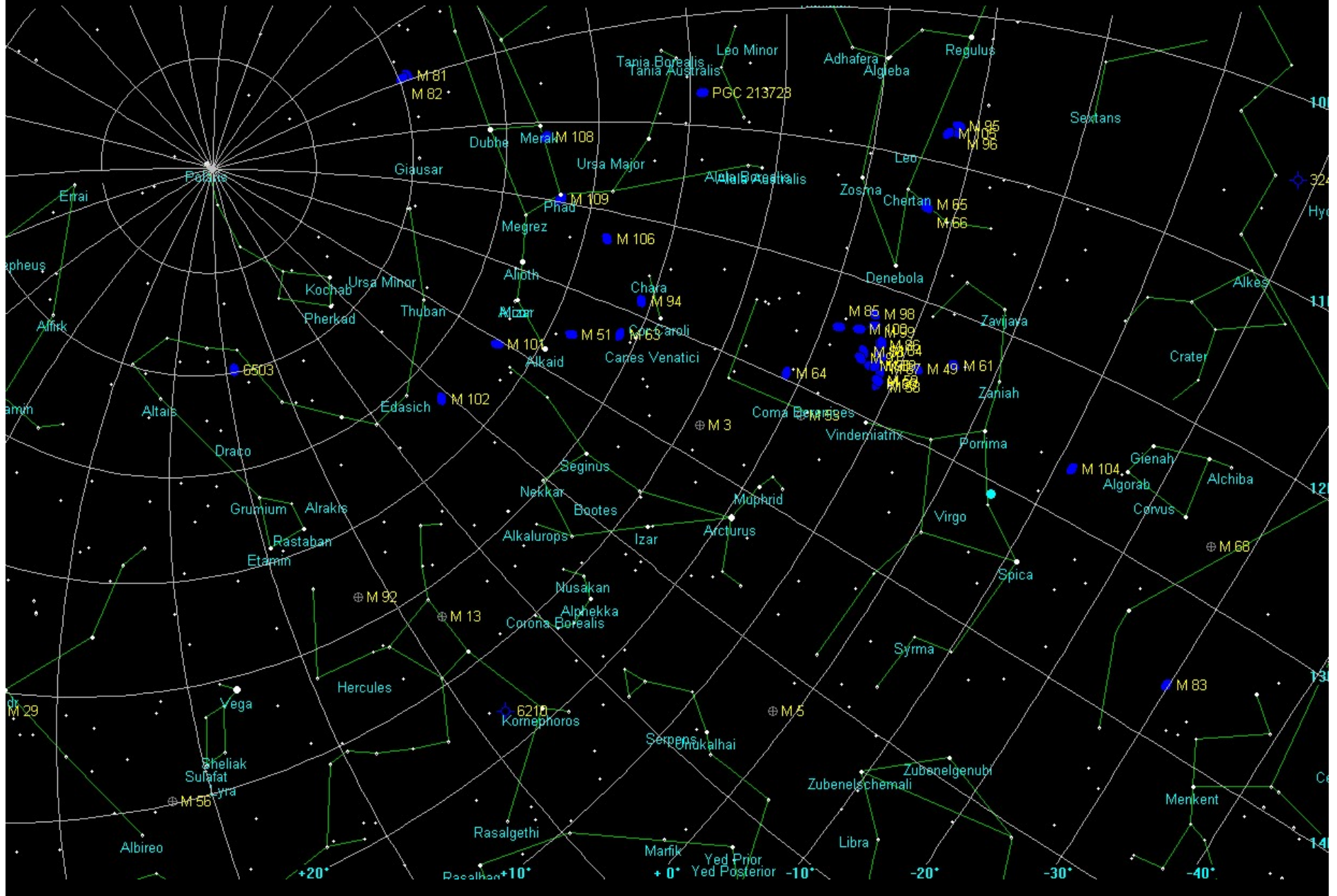
# "East" Sunset

5/6/05

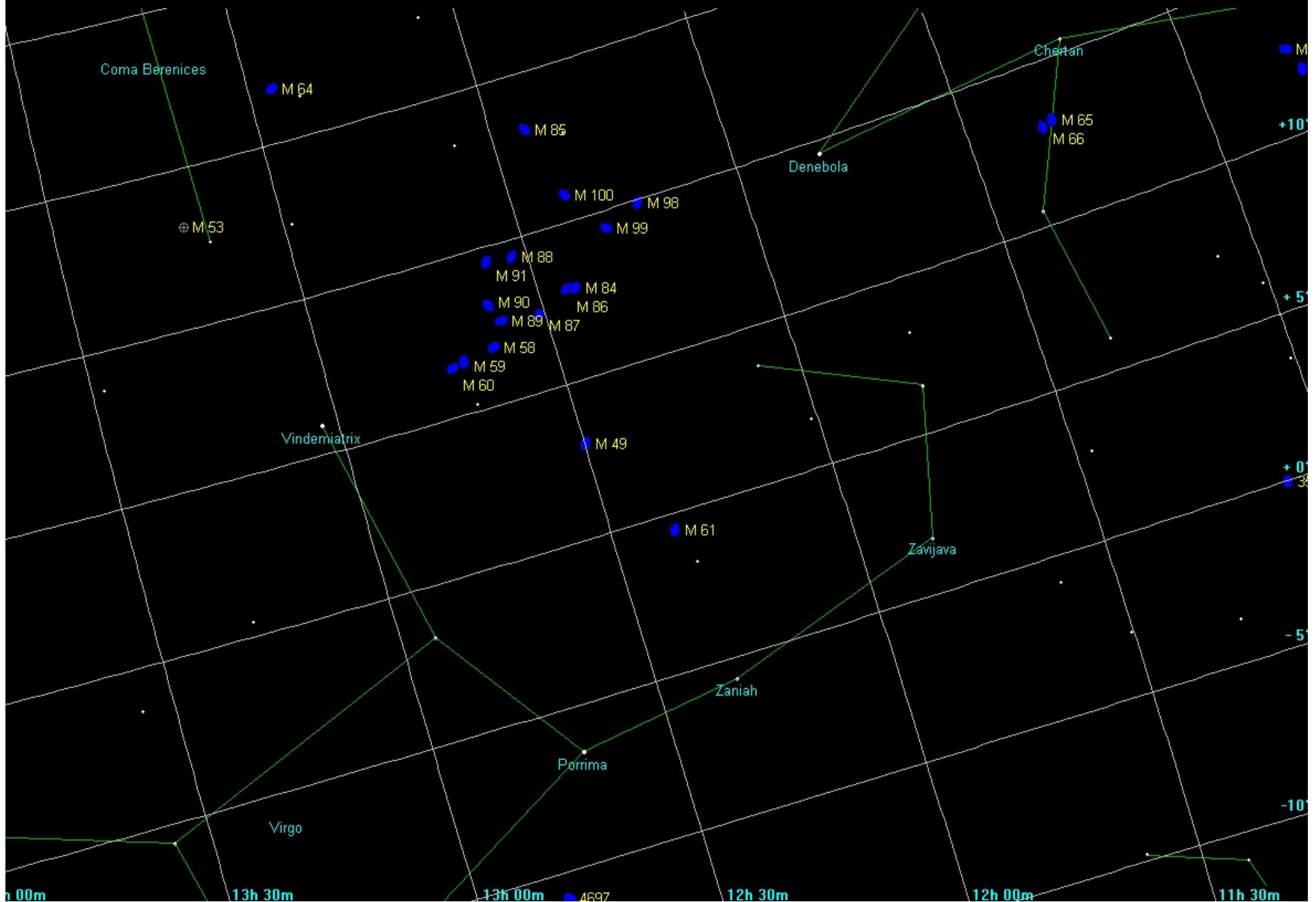


# Mid-Night "East"

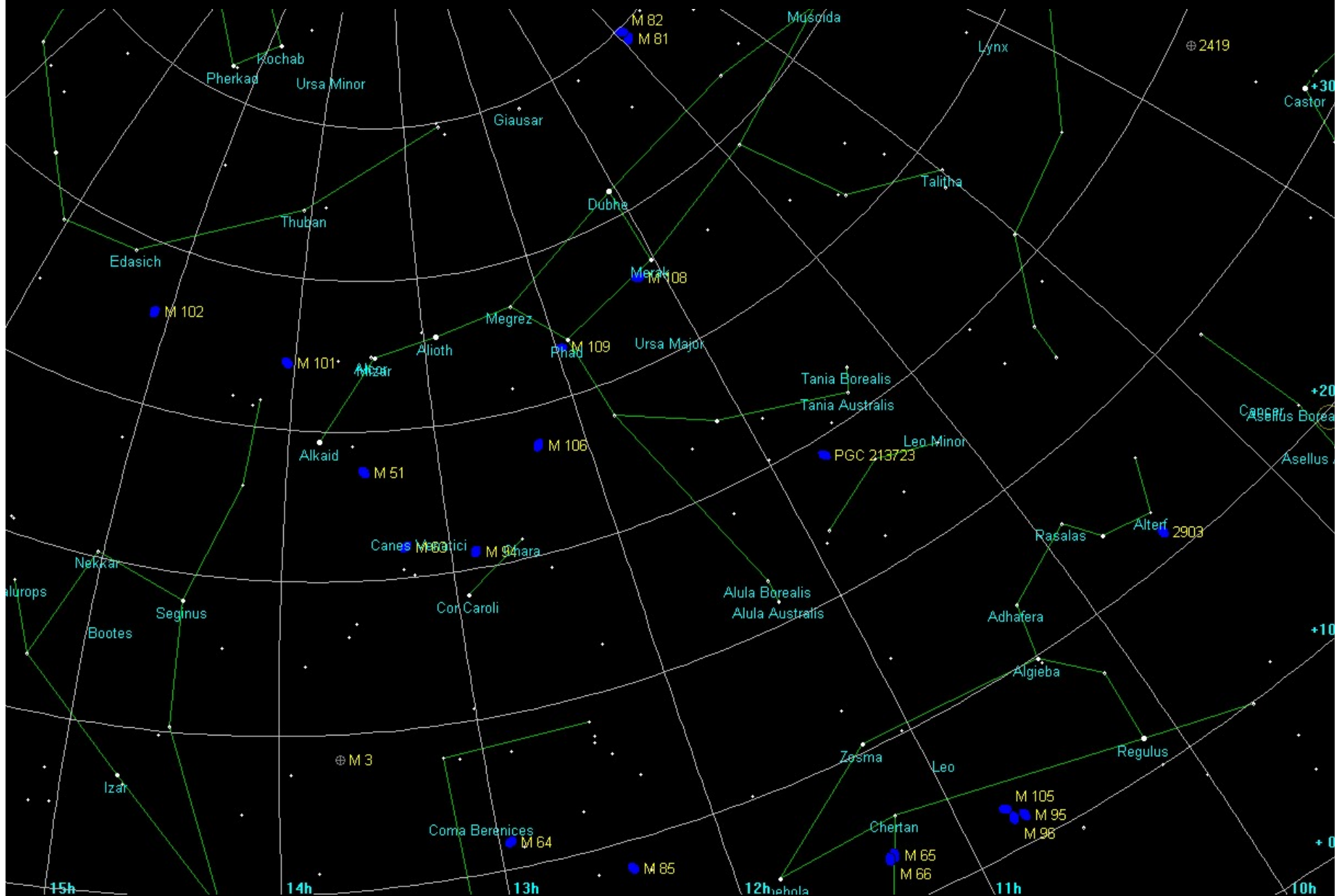
5/6/05



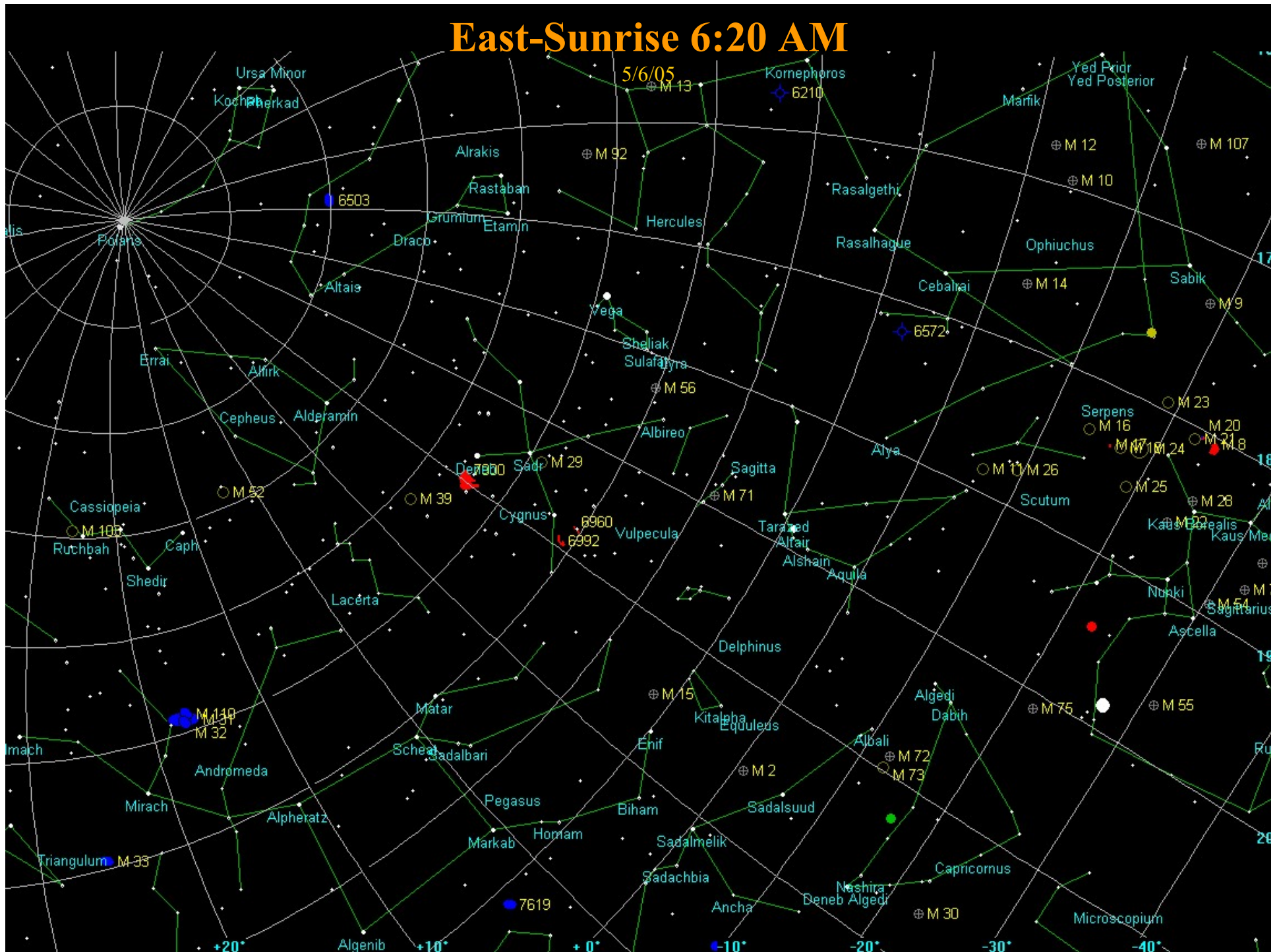
# Virgo Group



# Big Dipper & Leo

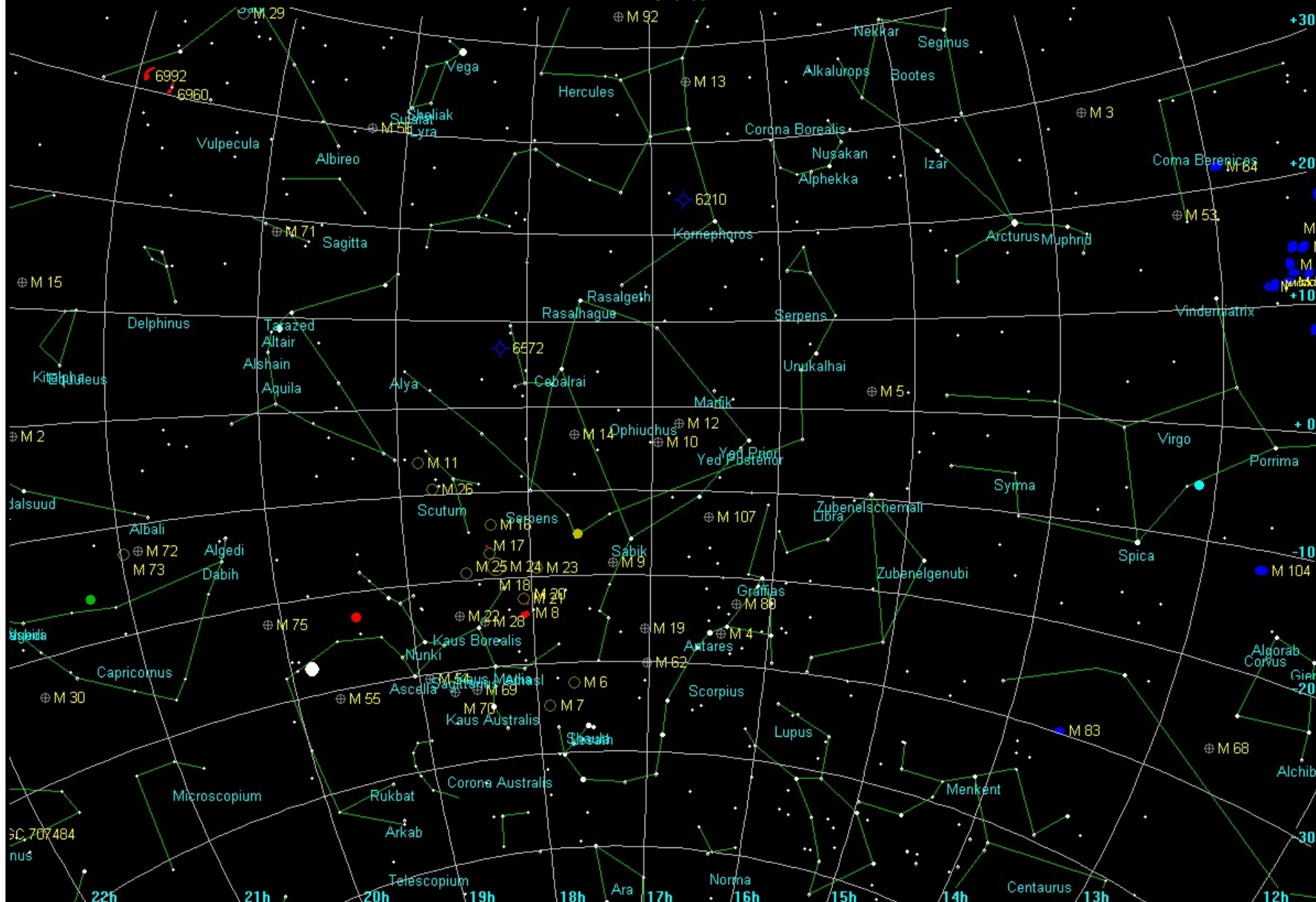


# East-Sunrise 6:20 AM

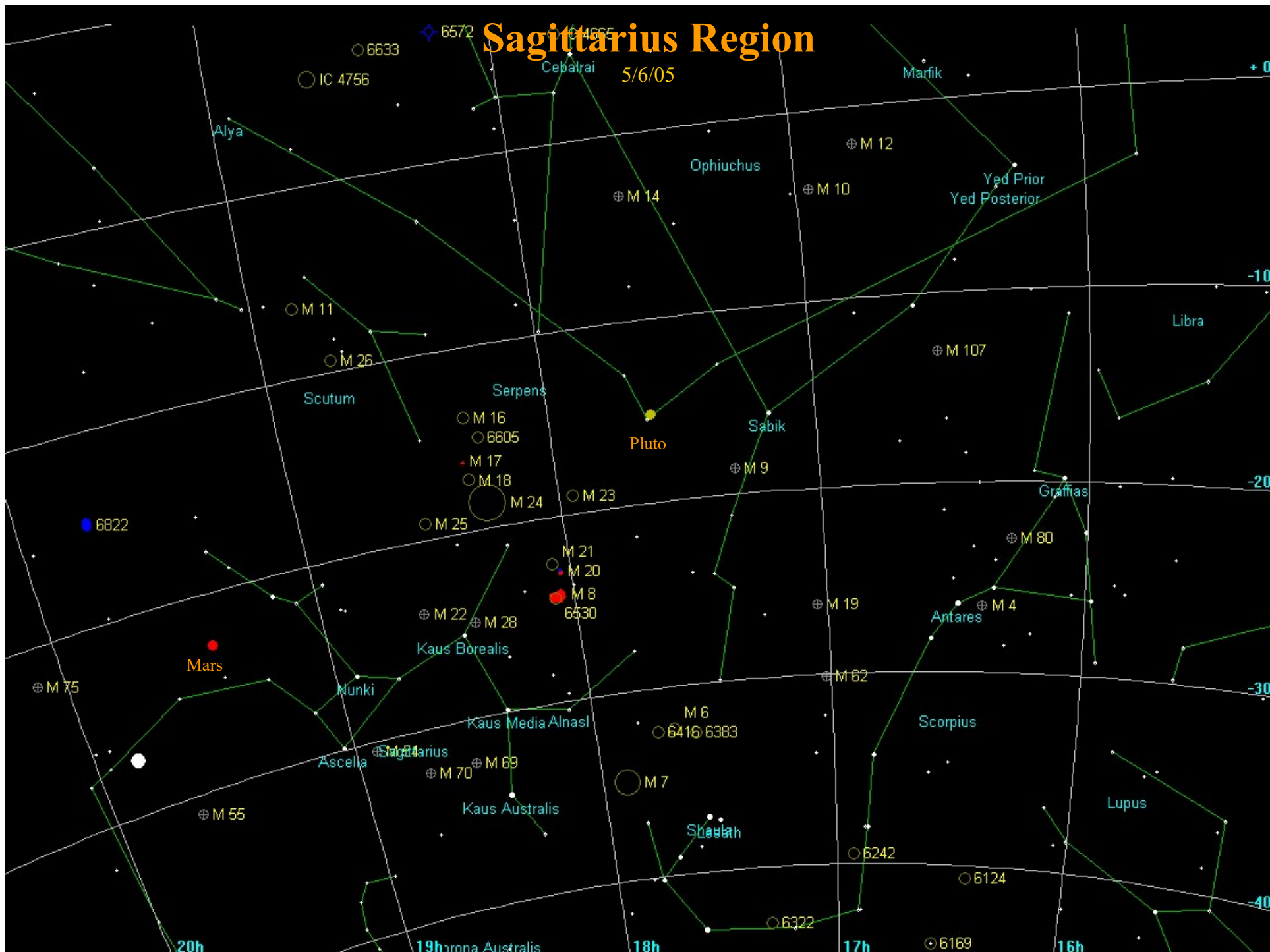


# South-Sunrise 6:20 AM

5/6/05



# Sagittarius Region



5/6/05

Pluto

Mars

Shaallah

20h

19h  
Orion Australis

18h

17h

16h

+ 0

-10

-20

-30

-40



**Plan Ahead**

**Print Finder Charts**

**Dress Warm**

**Make Equipment Check List**

**Go to A Dark Sky Site**

**Good South, East & West  
Horizons**