

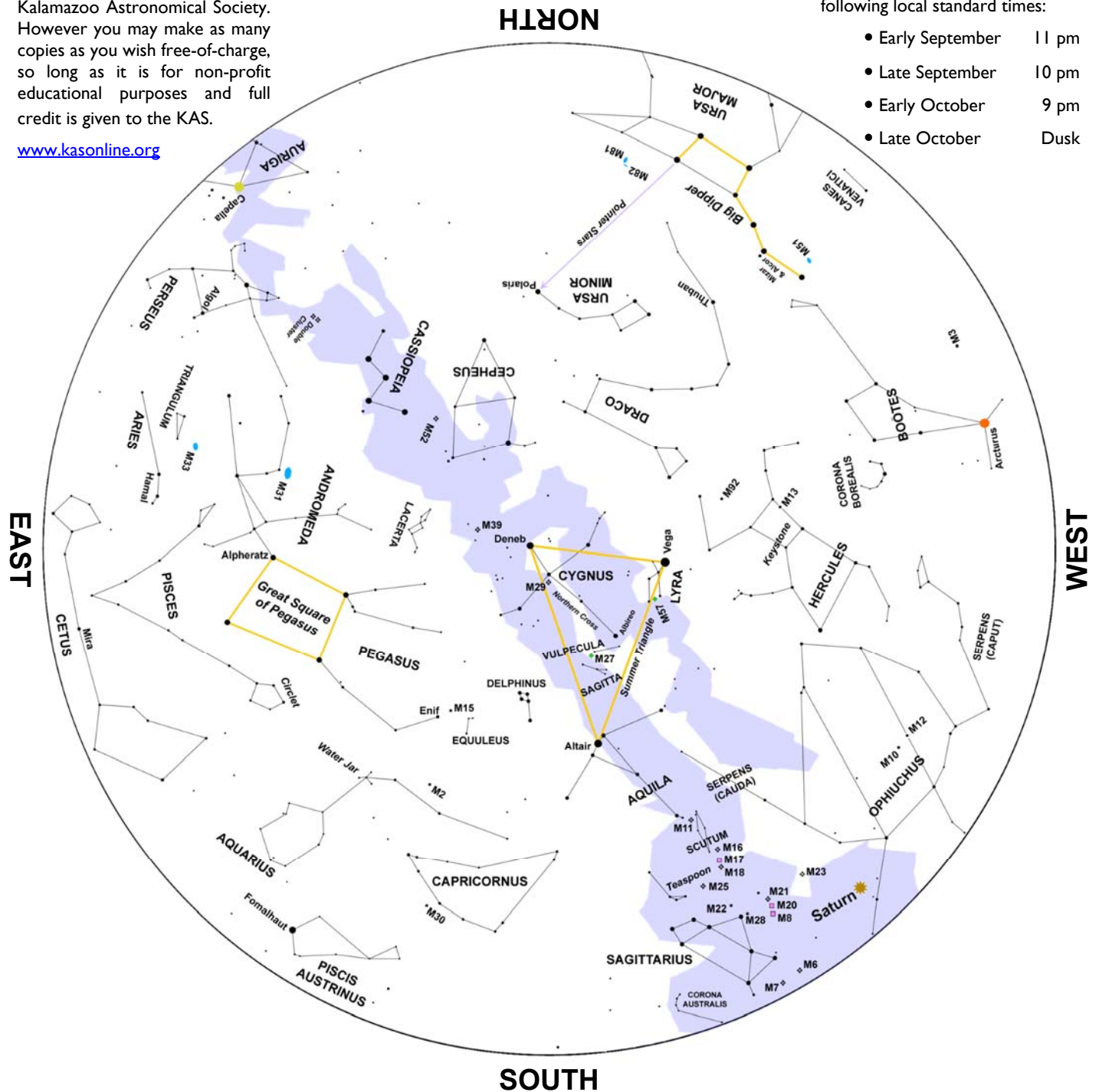
October Night Sky.....

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This map represents the sky at the following local standard times:

- Early September 11 pm
- Late September 10 pm
- Early October 9 pm
- Late October Dusk



Venus and Mars are a mere 14' (less than $\frac{1}{4}^\circ$) apart as dawn approaches on October 5th. As an added bonus, the star Sigma Leonis is only 20' ($\frac{1}{3}^\circ$) to Venus' left. Look low in the eastern sky starting about an hour before sunrise. Binoculars will help spot Mars and Sigma Leonis.

The illuminated portion of a thin waning

crescent Moon will occult the bright star Regulus at about 5:39 am EDT on October 15th. The star will dramatically reappear behind an unilluminated section of the Moon at about 6:29 am. The Moon will be 32° above the eastern horizon at the end of the occultation.

A razor-thin waning crescent Moon will

hang about 6.5° above Venus at dawn on October 17th. Mars can be found, with the aid of binoculars, about 1.5° to the Moon's right. Best viewing begins about an hour before sunrise.

The Orionid meteor shower peaks during the early morning hours of October 21st. Expect around 20 meteors per hour.