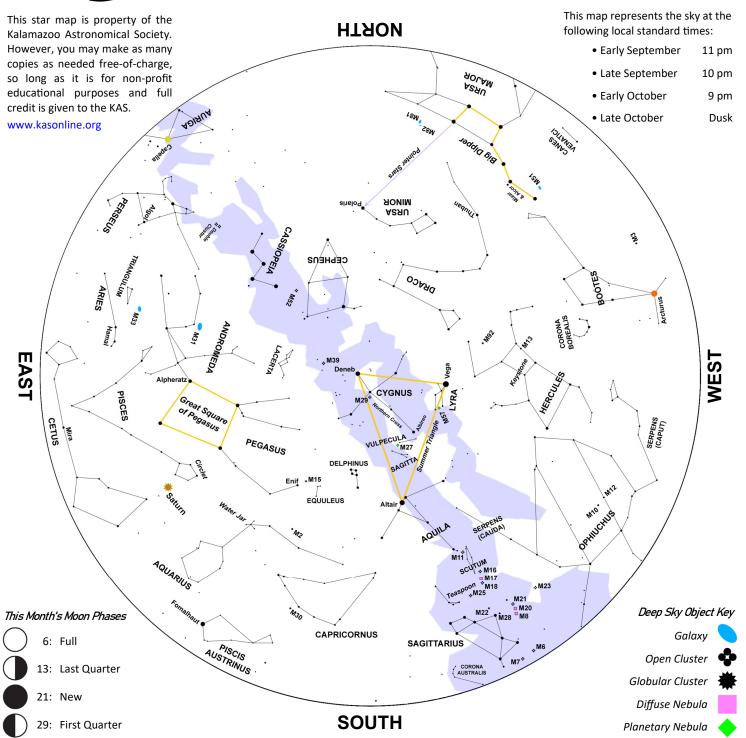


October Night Sky



F acing east-southeast at dusk on October 5th will reveal a waxing gibbous Moon about 2½° to the upper left of Saturn. The view grows more dramatic as twilight deepens.

A waning gibbous Moon and the Pleiades rise in tandem in the east-northeast on the evening of October 9th. About 2° will separate the pair. Binoculars will be needed

to see the cluster's stars through the Moon's overpowering glare.

A thin waning crescent Moon, just two days shy of new, appears 4° to the upper right of Venus low in the east at dawn on October 19th. This photogenic scene will easily fit in the field of 7×50 or 10×50 binoculars.

The Orion meteor shower is predicted to

peak at 8am EDT on October 21st. Therefore, the best viewing will be in the hours before dawn. A maximum local hourly rate of 18 meteors per hour is predicted. These meteors are tiny fragments of Halley's Comet itself!

A waxing crescent Moon hangs some $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ below red-orange Antares, the heart of Scorpius, at dusk on October 24^{th} .