



Winnicentrics

Newsletter of the Winnipeg Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

Upcoming events

May 6, 2016
New Moon

May 13, 2016
RASC Monthly Meeting
First Quarter

May 14, 2016
9am- 6pm
Astronomy Day
Chapters Polo Park

May 21, 2016
Full Moon

May 29, 2016
Last Quarter

June 5, 2016
New Moon

June 10, 2016
RASC Monthly Meeting
BBQ at Gleanlea

June 12, 2016
First Quarter

June 20, 2016
Full Moon

June 27, 2016
Last Quarter

July 8, 2016
RASC Monthly Meeting

September 2-5, 2016
RASC Spruce Woods
Star Party

Regular meetings of the Winnipeg Centre are held in the Robert B. Schultz lecture theatre in St. John's College at the University of Manitoba. The theatre is on the lower (basement) floor of the College. Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. After the meetings, members who wish to do so usually retire for pizza and more conversation about astronomical subjects.

The June meeting is not held at St. John's College but is instead a barbeque at either a member's house or at Gleanlea. Meeting dates and meeting places may be adjusted during exam times and during Bomber home games or stadium events.

7 pm: Beginner's session
7:30 Main Session

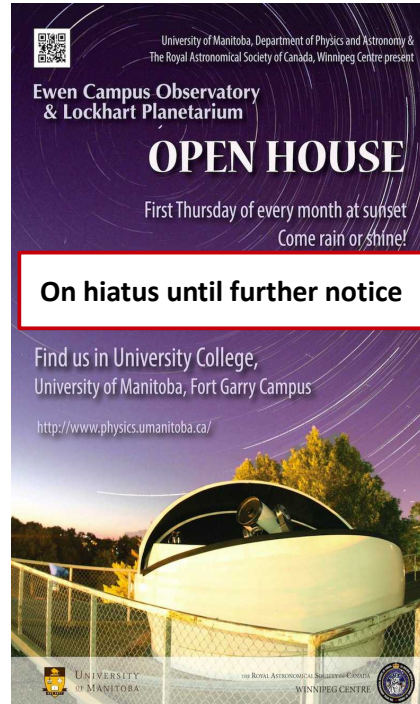
- Welcome and Announcements – Jay Anderson
- What's New? - Jennifer West
- Constellation of the Month (Vulpecula) – Gail Wise
- Mr. Messier's catalogue – Stan Runge
- What's Up? – Bryan Stach

8:30 Break for coffee and cookies

9:00 Feature presentation: Astronomy's Most Important Tool – The Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram – Jay Anderson

A century ago, a Danish and an American astronomer constructed graphs of stellar luminosity against spectral class (a measure of temperature). The form of the graph showed that stars are not randomly distributed across the luminosity and temperature spectrum, but instead form a distinct pattern – a pattern that reveals the nature and evolution of stars. Since then, the H-R diagram has allowed astronomers to trace the life histories of stars, determine ages of stellar clusters, measure distances across the universe, and classify variable stars. This talk will explore the nature of the chart and its revelations.

10:15 Pizza at Boston Pizza



On hiatus until further notice

May Meeting Schedule

Winnipeg Centre Officers & Volunteers

President:

Jay Anderson

Vice-President:

Brenden Petracek

Secretary:

Bryan Stach

Treasurer:

Stan Runge

Past President:

Andrea Misner

Councillors:

Jennifer West

Kevin Galka

Ralph Croning

Meghan Ostrum

Mick Rice

National Representative:

Rolando Martin

Dennis Lyons

SWSP Organizer:

Silvia Garca

Webmaster:

Julius Lopez-Garcia

Winnicentrics Editor:

Meghan Ostrum

Spruce Woods Star Party 2016

Dark Skies
Sky Tours
Astronomy Talks
Workshops



This year's star party will be held September 2nd to 5th. Three great nights of observing under pristine dark skies! Also included are tours, talks and a banquet to help you advance your knowledge of astronomy! As a bonus, Manitoba Parks is offering free park entry for the long weekend!

For more details, check the star party webpage at <http://winnipeg.rasc.ca/spruce-woods-star-party/> or the event page at <http://winnipeg.rasc.ca/event/spruce-woods-star-party-2016/>.

See you all at Spruce Woods Provincial Park on the September long weekend!



Photo above: Saturn
Photo below: Jupiter
Photos by: Kevin Galka





A documentary about the universal love of astronomy.

"Sepideh: Reaching for the Stars, released abroad in 2013 and available on iTunes in the U.S. Directed by Danish filmmaker, Berit Madsen, the film documents three years in the life of an Iranian teenager named Sepideh Hooshyar."

Sepideh Hooshyar lives in a small town in the province of Fars in southwest Iran. After her father died, she buys a telescope and loves looking at the night sky. In her room, she has posters of Albert Einstein and is writes letters to him in Farsi. A physics teacher leads a local astronomy club where girls and boys go out to watch the night sky. Sepideh wants to be an astronaut and follow in the footsteps of tech entrepreneur, Anousheh Ansari. There is an economic hardship on the family due to a drought. In this documentary, we find that love of the night sky is universal. Sepideh is trying to defy gender stereotypes and career expectations.

<http://www.npr.org/sections/13.7/2016/05/08/477257395/iran-through-the-eyes-of-a-teenage-amateur-astronomerIn>

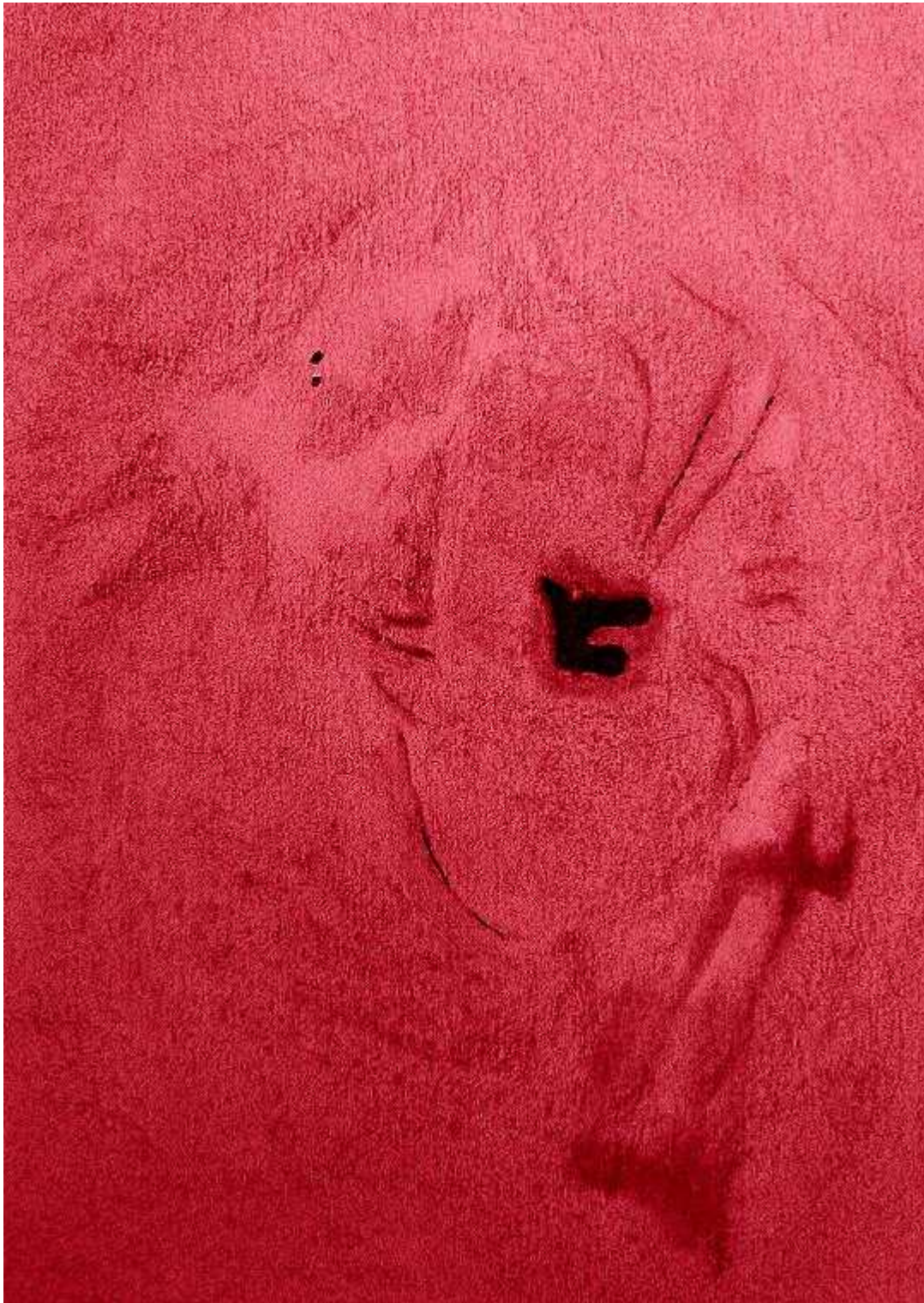


Photo: A pencil sketch. Sunspot AR2529 . "A Sketch done in graphite pencil then digitized and coloured to mimic H-alpha seen in Coronado 90 mm double stacked. It's a very large spot that has a lot of filaments and other features associated with it. The sketch shows a tiny bright spot near the top. It lasted for at least 30 minutes. (flare?) There was second tiny spit near the bottom of the spot but it was barely detectable in the shimmering afternoon air. The penumbral around this spot was not visible when the big Coronado was tuned to show max detail. So sketch includes details at various tuning in H-alpha. Tiny spots in the upper left seem to form while the sketch was made. The wide and diffuse filaments in the bottom right were also changing during the observing time. I went looking for a detailed image of this spot to see why the strange shape and came across this one taken earlier with a C-11 in Malaysia. Note it also has the bright spot and also the scale earth in the bottom left corner."

Photo by: Gerry Smerchanski

Photo above: A sketch of Aristarchus plateau (Pencil, ink and whiteout on white paper)

Photo by: Gerry Smerchanski

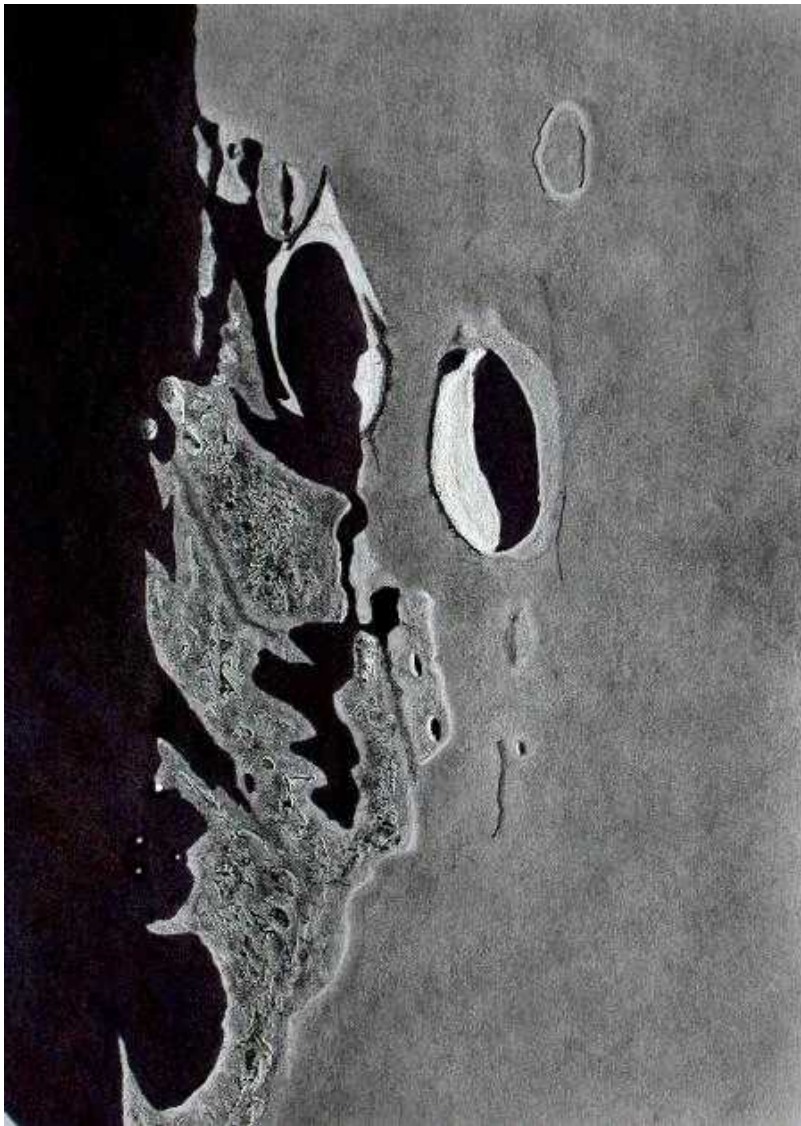


Photo below: Sun spot
Photo by: Bhagwan Thadani

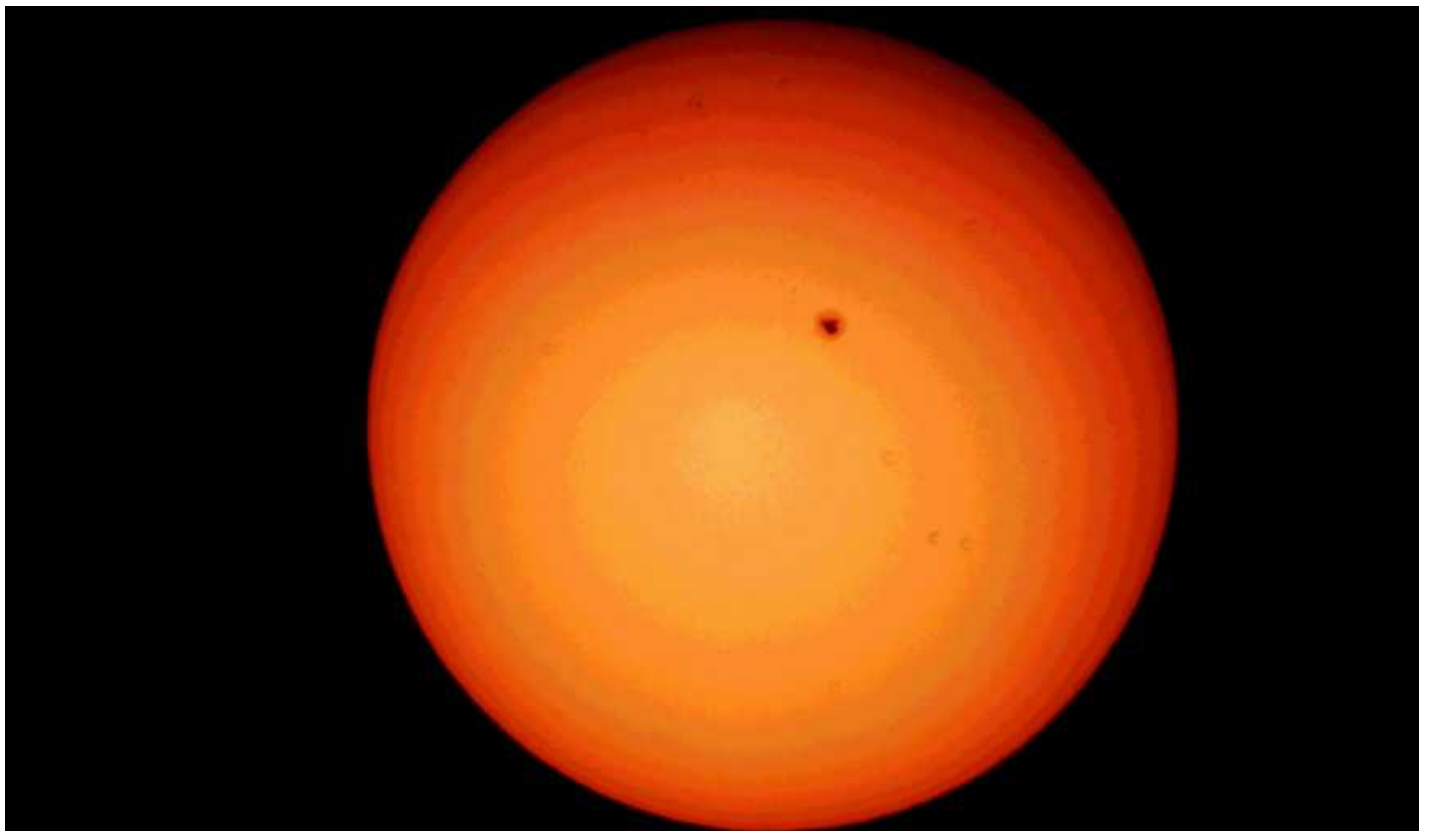




Photo above: Jupiter
Photo below: NGC2903s
Photos by: Kevin Galka

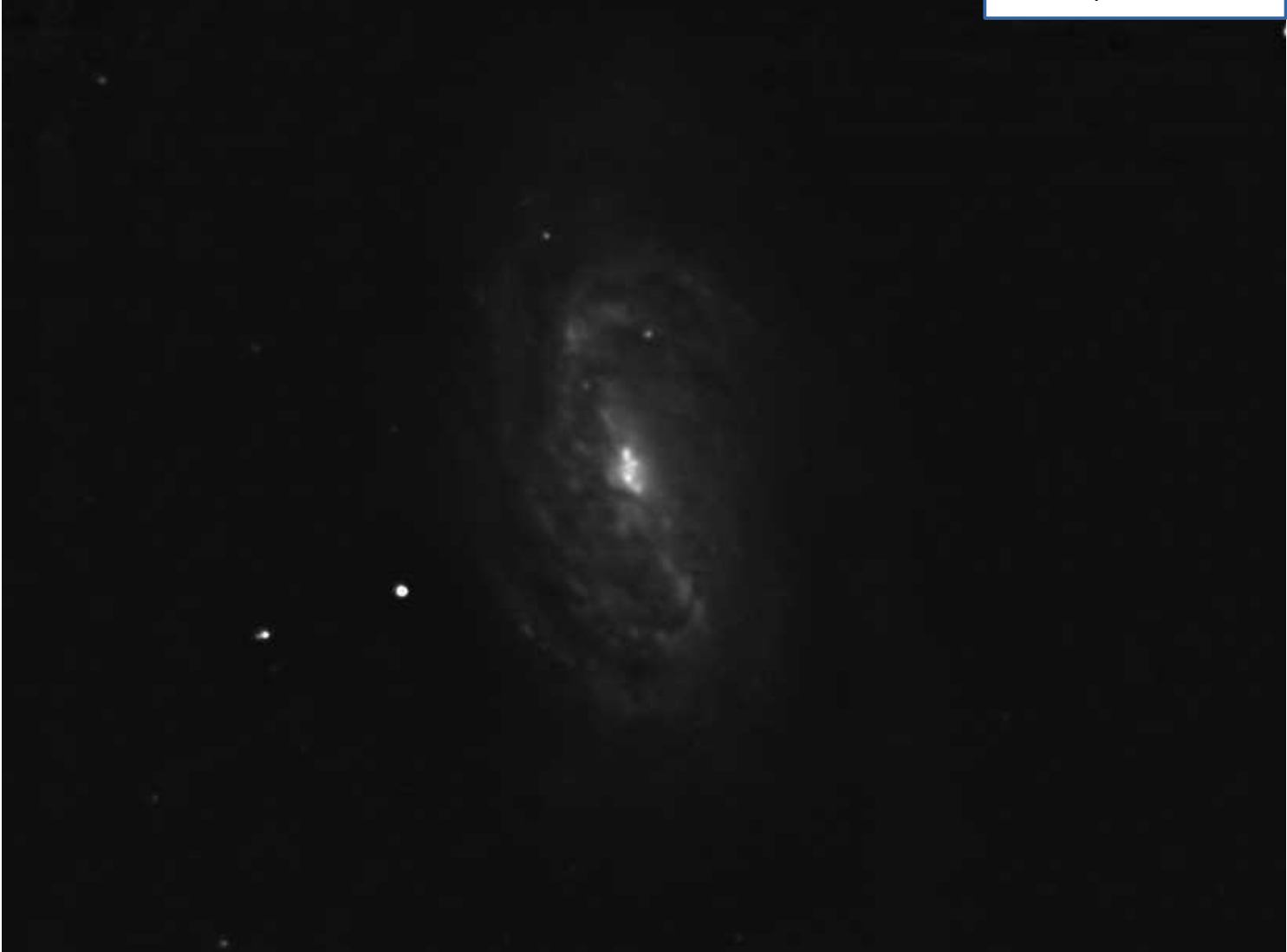




Photo left:
Star trails

Photo
below:
Comet.
Aimed at
252/Linear
using
about 12
x80sec
subs shot
at iso3200
with star
71 and
canon
60da.

Photos by:
Sheila
Wiwchar



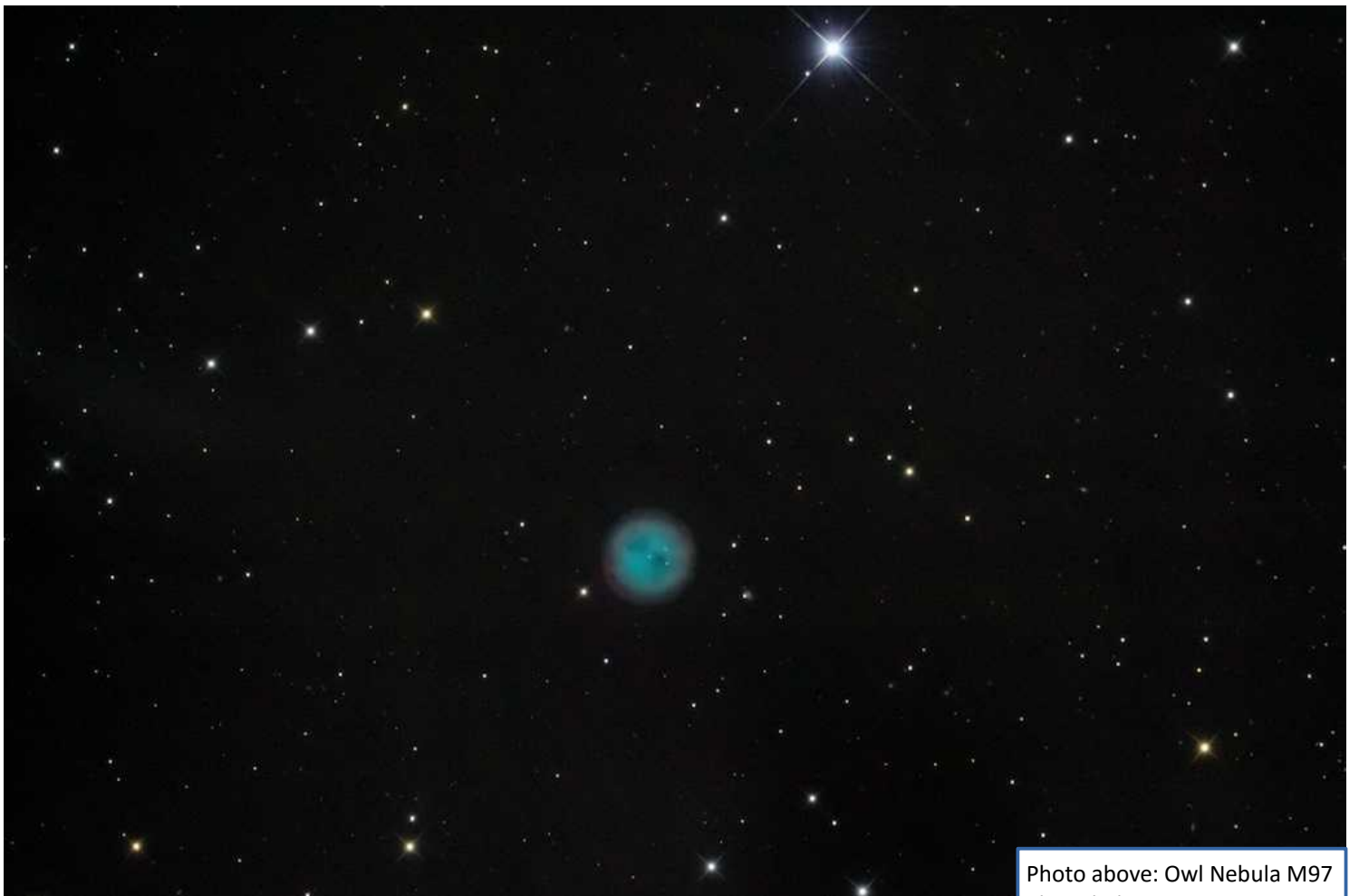


Photo above: Owl Nebula M97
Photo below: M52
Photos by: Sheila Wiwchar

