

February 2012

At 12 a.m. on February 1, the Sun and Mercury start the month "in" Capricornus, Venus "in" Aquarius, the Moon "in" Taurus, Mars and Saturn "in" Virgo, Jupiter "in" Aries and Uranus "in" Pisces.

The rising and setting sequence of the Sun, Moon and the planets for February 1 is as follows:

At 12 a.m., Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are already up in the sky. Jupiter sets at 12:22 a.m.; the Moon rises at 2:06 a.m.; Mercury rises at 7:19 a.m.; sunrise is at 7:24 a.m.; Venus rises at 9:26 a.m.; Mars sets at 9:44 a.m.; Uranus rises at 9:51 a.m.; Jupiter rises at 11:19 a.m.; Saturn sets at 11:20 a.m.;

the Moon sets at 12:41 p.m.; Mercury sets at 5:44 p.m.; sunset is at 6:06 p.m.; Mars rises at 9:05 p.m.;

Venus sets at 9:13 p.m.; Uranus sets at 9:55 p.m.; and Saturn rises at 11:56 p.m.

This the best month to see these four constellations: Cancer, Carina, Pyxis and Vela containing 10 bright stars (four are navigational stars), four Caldwell objects and one Messier object.

At Mayborn Planetarium we can see the top 08° of Carina

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SR = Sun Rise SS = Sun Set MR = Moon Rise MS = Moon Set 1 fist at arm's length = 10°						
			1 (3 p.m.) Moon 3° from Pleiades SR 7:24 A.M. SS 6:06 P.M. MS 2:06 A.M. MR 12:41 P.M.	2 Cross-quarter day (Halfway between December solstice and March equinox) ----- (11 a.m.) Moon 6° from Aldebaran ----- (4:45 p.m.) Venus enters Pisces SR 7:23 A.M. SS 6:07 P.M. MS 2:59 A.M. MR 1:28 P.M.	3 (11:57 a.m.) Mars enters Leo SR 7:22 A.M. SS 6:08 P.M. MS 3:51 A.M. MR 2:19 P.M.	4 SR 7:22 A.M. SS 6:09 P.M. MS 4:41 A.M. MR 3:15 P.M.
5 (6 p.m.) Moon 10° from Pollux ----- (Tonight's sunset to tomorrow's sunrise) View the top 08° of Constellation Carina SR 7:21 A.M. SS 6:10 P.M. MS 5:27 A.M. MR 4:14 P.M.	6 (7 p.m.) Moon 6° from Beehive cluster SR 7:20 A.M. SS 6:11 P.M. MS 6:11 A.M. MR 5:16 P.M.	7 (3:54 p.m.) Full moon ----- (Tonight's sunset to tomorrow's sunrise) View Constellation Cancer SR 7:19 A.M. SS 6:12 P.M. MS 6:51 A.M. MR 6:20 P.M.	8 (5 a.m.) Saturn stops eastward motion; begins retrograde (westward motion) ----- (1 p.m.) Moon 6° from Regulus SR 7:19 A.M. SS 6:12 P.M. MS 7:29 A.M. MR 7:24 P.M.	9 (One hour after sunset) Zodiacal light western horizon for two weeks until February 23 ----- (10 p.m.) Moon 10° from Mars SR 7:18 A.M. SS 6:13 P.M. MS 8:06 A.M. MR 8:28 P.M.	10 SR 7:17 A.M. SS 6:14 P.M. MS 8:43 A.M. MR 9:34 P.M.	11 (12:33 p.m.) Perigee moon (Closest the Moon is to Earth this month) ----- (6 p.m.) Equation of Time Minimum for the year (Sun is 14.25 minutes slow at 12 p.m.) SR 7:16 A.M. SS 6:15 P.M. MS 9:21 A.M. MR 10:40 P.M.
12 (3:55 a.m.) Mercury enters Aquarius ----- (6 a.m.) Moon 6° from Spica ----- (7 p.m.) Moon 6° from Saturn SR 7:15 A.M. SS 6:16 P.M. MS 10:01 A.M. MR 11:46 P.M.	13 (Tonight's sunset to tomorrow's sunrise) View Constellation Pyxis SR 7:15 A.M. SS 6:17 P.M. MS 10:45 A.M. MR -----	14 (11:04 a.m.) Third quarter moon SR 7:14 A.M. SS 6:17 P.M. MR 12:52 A.M. MS 11:34 A.M.	15 (1 p.m.) Moon 5° from Antares SR 7:13 A.M. SS 6:18 P.M. MR 1:56 A.M. MS 12:27 P.M.	16 (4:38 p.m.) Sun enters Aquarius SR 7:12 A.M. SS 6:19 P.M. MR 2:56 A.M. MS 1:25 P.M.	17 SR 7:11 A.M. SS 6:20 P.M. MR 3:52 A.M. MS 2:26 P.M.	18 SR 7:10 A.M. SS 6:21 P.M. MR 4:41 A.M. MS 3:28 P.M.
19 (Tonight's sunset to tomorrow's sunrise) View Constellation Vela SR 7:09 A.M. SS 6:22 P.M. MR 5:25 A.M. MS 4:29 P.M.	20 SR 7:08 A.M. SS 6:22 P.M. MR 6:04 A.M. MS 5:29 P.M.	21 (4:35 p.m.) New moon [Lunation 1103] SR 7:07 A.M. SS 6:23 P.M. MR 6:39 A.M. MS 6:27 P.M.	22 SR 7:06 A.M. SS 6:24 P.M. MR 7:12 A.M. MS 7:24 P.M.	23 (7 p.m.) Moon 6° from Mercury ----- 7 – 8 p.m. March Night Sky presentation (Planetarium) SR 7:05 A.M. SS 6:25 P.M. MR 7:43 A.M. MS 8:19 P.M.	24 (2 p.m.) Moon 5° from Uranus SR 7:04 A.M. SS 6:25 P.M. MR 8:15 A.M. MS 9:14 P.M.	25 (4 p.m.) Moon 3° from Venus ----- (10:59 p.m.) Mercury enters Pisces SR 7:03 A.M. SS 6:26 P.M. MR 8:47 A.M. MS 10:08 P.M.
26 (9 p.m.) Moon 4° from Jupiter SR 7:02 A.M. SS 6:27 P.M. MR 9:21 A.M. MS 11:02 P.M.	27 (8:03 a.m.) Apogee moon (Farthest the Moon is from Earth this month) SR 7:01 A.M. SS 6:28 P.M. MR 9:57 A.M. MS 11:55 P.M.	28 (8 p.m.) Moon 3° from Pleiades SR 7:00 A.M. SS 6:28 P.M. MR 10:37 A.M. MS -----	29 Leap-day ----- (7:21 p.m.) First quarter moon SR 6:58 A.M. SS 6:29 P.M. MS 12:48 A.M. MR 11:20 P.M.	SR = Sun Rise SS = Sun Set MR = Moon Rise MS = Moon Set 1 fist at arm's length = 10°		