

STGZ333

10/09 - 10/15

LOOK IT'S LEO THE LION!

GREETINGS STAR GAZERS! LEO THE LION IS AN ANCIENT CONSTELLATION AND RIGHT NOW, HE'S GOT VENUS FOR COMPANY. LET'S SEE BOTH!

LOOK EAST BEFORE SUNRISE, AND YOU'LL SEE A VERY BRIGHT DOT – THAT'S THE PLANET VENUS! ON THE 22ND IT WILL REACH DICHOTOMY, OR THE FURTHEST EDGE OF ITS ORBIT RELATIVE TO US. AT THIS TIME HALF THE PLANET IS BATHED IN SUNLIGHT, AND HALF IN SHADOW. VENUS REFLECTS SO MUCH SUNLIGHT AT DICHOTOMY THAT IT BECOMES ONE OF THE BRIGHTEST OBJECTS IN THE NIGHT SKY AFTER THE MOON.

UP AND LEFT OF VENUS, IS REGULUS – THE 21ST BRIGHTEST STAR IN THE SKY. THIS IS THE BASE OF A BACKWARD QUESTION-MARK OF STARS THAT FORM LEO THE LION'S HEAD. BELOW IT IS A TRIANGLE THAT MARKS HIS REAR END.

REGULUS GOT ITS NAME FROM THE ASTRONOMER COPERNICUS; IT'S LATIN FOR LITTLE PRINCE. LEO HAS BEEN THOUGHT OF AS A LION SINCE ANCIENT TIMES; OFTEN DEPICTED RECLINING, WITH TWO OUTSTRETCHED PAWS. RAWR!

KEEP LOOKING UP!