



# THE ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE'S SOUTHERN SKIES BINOCULAR CLUB



By John Wagoner

## Texas Astronomical Society of Dallas

### Introduction

Welcome to the Astronomical League's Southern Skies Binocular Club. So I guess that the first question that comes to mind is "If we all live in the Northern Hemisphere, why do we need a club whose list of objects can only be seen from the Southern Hemisphere?". Well, probably the best answer I have for that question is that this was something that I just had to do. The Binocular Messier Club in tandem with the Deep Sky Binocular Club presents a complete list of binocular objects that can be reasonably observed in the Northern Hemisphere. Likewise, the Southern Skies Binocular Club presents a complete list of binocular objects that can be reasonably observed from the Southern Hemisphere. Together, this trilogy of binocular clubs gives one an all-sky survey of deep sky objects that are within range of small aperture binoculars.

But if you happen to be going to the Southern Hemisphere on business, why not drop a pair of binoculars in your suitcase and do some observing while you are there? Or if you are going to the Southern Hemisphere on vacation, again, take along your binoculars and sneak in some observing. If you are in the Southern Hemisphere for a Total Solar Eclipse, this would be an ideal time to do some deep sky observing with binoculars as well as observe the eclipse. If you are going to the Southern Hemisphere on an observing trip, what better way to travel light and observe the wonders of the southern skies, while getting credit for your observations by picking up an Astronomical League Southern Skies Binocular Club certificate? Finally, if you are traveling to the Southern Hemisphere for the sole purpose of observing, but with a telescope, why not take this list along as a guide to the best showpiece objects to observe, without wasting the limited time you have there on commonplace objects?

Over two hundred Southern Hemisphere deep sky objects were surveyed to come up with this list of seventy-three objects readily observable with 7X50 binoculars. All objects on this list had to be below minus forty degrees declination to qualify as a Southern Hemisphere object. To qualify for the Astronomical League's Southern Skies Binocular Club Certificate, you need only observe 50 of the 73 objects on this list!!! You may choose which 50 objects you want to submit for your certificate. The reason for this is that many of us will only have limited access to the Southern Hemisphere, maybe only one or two visits in a lifetime, while, at the same time, we may not have control over the best time of the year to observe in the Southern Hemisphere. An experienced binocular observer with two good nights of observing any time during the year should be able to acquire this certificate.

Plano, Tx - December 25, 1994

### Rules and Regulations

To qualify for the AL's Southern Skies Binocular Certificate, you need only be a member of the Astronomical League, either through an affiliated club or as a Member-at-Large, and observe your 50 selected objects using only binoculars. Any pair of binoculars may be used, but those with objectives between 50MM and 80MM in diameter are recommended. To record your observations, you may use log sheets similar to those found in the back of the Astronomical League's manual *Observe: A Guide to the Messier Objects*. You can order the *Observe* manual through Marion Bachtell, Astronomical League Sales, 1901 S. 10th. St., Burlington, Ia. 52601, (319) 753-1442. The price is \$4.50, including postage. If you use your own log sheets, they should include: object, date, time, power, seeing, type of binocular, and observing notes.

If you need to become a member of the Astronomical League as a Member-at-Large, contact Linda Sensenig, M.A.L. Chairperson, 345 Douglass St., Wyomissing, Pa. 19610, (215) 375-9062.

To receive your Southern Skies Binocular Certificate, simply send your observations along with your name, address, phone number, and club affiliation, either to your club's Awards Co-ordinator for verification, or to: John Wagoner, A.L. Binocular Co-ordinator, 1409 Sequoia Dr., Plano, Tx. 75023, (214) 422-1886. Upon verification of your observations, your certificate will be forwarded either to you or your club's Awards Co-ordinator, whomever you choose.

### The List

All objects are listed in Right Ascension order so that you can view them as they rise, and so that you can properly plan your observing sessions to make the most of your limited time. Information provided on each object includes: Catalog Number, Right Ascension, Declination, Magnitude, Position Angle if the object is a galaxy, Type of Object, Size, Constellation, and what chart they are located on in both the *Uranometria* and *Tirion's Sky Atlas 2000*. Notes are provided on a few objects to clarify their observation.

I sincerely hope that all of you reading this brochure have a chance to observe the glorious southern skies. They are indeed, as I have found, enough to take your breath away. The Magellanic Clouds alone are worth the trip to the Southern Hemisphere. If you are fortunate enough to find yourself south of the equator, I hope that you find this list useful. Maybe someday I'll actually have someone submit their observations for the certificate. Until then, good luck, clear skies, and good observing.

### Dedication

The Astronomical League's Southern Skies Binocular Club is dedicated to my dear friend Jim Curry, without whose support this program would not have been possible.

# THE LIST (Epoch 2000.0)

[ ]	Object	R.A.	DEC	Mag	PA*	Type	Size	Const	Urn	SAI	Notes
[ ]	NGC 104	00 24.1	-72 05	4.5	-----	GbCl	25.0'	Tuc	440	24	47 Tucanae
[ ]	SMC	00 52.8	-72 50	2.7	10	Glxy	316'X186'	Tuc	441	24	Small Magellanic Cloud
[ ]	NGC 362	01 03.2	-70 51	6.6	-----	GbCl	12.9'	Tuc	441	24	
[ ]	NGC 1261	03 12.3	-55 13	8.4	-----	GbCl	6.9'	Hor	419	24	
[ ]	NGC 1851	05 14.1	-40 03	7.2	-----	GbCl	11.0'	Col	393	19	
[ ]	LMC	05 23.6	-69 45	0.9	170	Glxy	646'X550'	Dor	444	24	Large Magellanic Cloud
[ ]	NGC 2070	05 38.6	-69 05	8.2	-----	Bneb	40'X25'	Dor	445	24	Tarantula Nebula
[ ]	NGC 2451	07 45.4	-37 58	2.8	-----	OpCl	45.0'	Pup	362	19	
[ ]	NGC 2477	07 52.3	-38 33	5.8	-----	OpCl	27.0'	Pup	362	19	
[ ]	NGC 2516	07 58.3	-60 52	3.8	-----	OpCl	29.0'	Car	424	24	
[ ]	NGC 2547	08 10.7	-49 16	4.7	-----	OpCl	20.0'	Vel	396	20	
[ ]	NGC 2546	08 12.4	-37 38	6.3	-----	OpCl	40.0'	Pup	362	20	
[ ]	NGC 2627	08 37.3	-29 57	8.4	-----	OpCl	11.0'	Pyx	363	20	
[ ]	IC 2391	08 40.2	-53 04	2.5	-----	OpCl	50.0'	Vel	425	25	
[ ]	IC 2395	08 41.1	-48 12	4.6	-----	OpCl	7.0'	Vel	397	20	
[ ]	NGC 2659	08 42.6	-44 57	8.6	-----	OpCl	2.7'	Vel	397	20	
[ ]	NGC 2670	08 45.5	-48 47	7.8	-----	OpCl	9.0'	Vel	397	20	
[ ]	NGC 2808	09 12.0	-64 52	6.3	-----	GbCl	13.8'	Car	448	25	
[ ]	IC 2488	09 27.6	-56 59	7.4	-----	OpCl	14.0'	Vel	425	25	
[ ]	NGC 2910	09 30.4	-52 54	7.2	-----	OpCl	5.0'	Vel	426	25	
[ ]	NGC 2925	09 33.7	-53 26	8.3	-----	OpCl	12.0'	Vel	426	25	
[ ]	NGC 3114	10 02.7	-60 07	4.2	-----	OpCl	35.0'	Car	426	25	
[ ]	NGC 3201	10 17.6	-46 25	6.7	-----	GbCl	18.0'	Vel	399	20	
[ ]	NGC 3228	10 21.8	-51 43	6.0	-----	OpCl	18.0'	Vel	426	25	
[ ]	NGC 3293	10 35.8	-58 14	4.7	-----	OpCl	5.0'	Car	427	25	
[ ]	Mel 101	10 42.1	-65 06	8.0	-----	OpCl	13.0'	Car	449	25	
[ ]	IC 2602	10 43.2	-64 24	1.9	-----	OpCl	50.0'	Car	449	25	
[ ]	NGC 3372	10 43.8	-59 52	1.0	-----	Bneb	120'X120'	Car	427	25	Eta Carinae
[ ]	NGC 3532	11 06.4	-58 40	3.0	-----	OpCl	55.0'	Car	427	25	
[ ]	IC 2714	11 17.9	-62 42	8.2	-----	OpCl	12.0'	Car	449	25	
[ ]	Mel 105	11 19.5	-63 30	8.5	-----	OpCl	4.0'	Car	449	25	
[ ]	NGC 3766	11 36.1	-61 37	5.3	-----	OpCl	12.0'	Cen	428	25	
[ ]	NGC 4052	12 01.9	-63 12	8.8	-----	OpCl	7.0'	Cru	450	25	
[ ]	NGC 4103	12 06.7	-61 15	7.4	-----	OpCl	6.0'	Cru	428	25	
[ ]	NGC 4337	12 23.9	-58 08	8.9	-----	OpCl	3.5'	Cru	428	25	
[ ]	NGC 4349	12 24.5	-61 54	7.4	-----	OpCl	15.0'	Cru	428	25	
[ ]	H 5	12 25.2	-60 29	8.5	-----	OpCl	7.0'	Cru	428	25	
[ ]	NGC 4463	12 30.0	-64 48	7.2	-----	OpCl	5.0'	Mus	450	25	
[ ]	H 6	12 35.0	-68 10	9.9	-----	OpCl	7.0'	Mus	450	25	
[ ]	NGC 4609	12 42.3	-62 58	6.9	-----	OpCl	5.0'	Cru	451	25	
[ ]	COALSACK	12 52.0	-63 00	---	-----	DkNb	420'X300'	Cru	451	25	Coalsack Dark Nebula
[ ]	NGC 4755	12 53.6	-60 20	4.2	-----	OpCl	10.0'	Cru	429	25	The Jewel Box
[ ]	NGC 4815	12 58.0	-64 57	8.6	-----	OpCl	3.0'	Mus	451	25	
[ ]	NGC 4833	12 59.6	-70 53	7.3	-----	GbCl	13.5'	Mus	451	25	
[ ]	NGC 4852	13 00.1	-59 36	8.9	-----	OpCl	11.0'	Cen	429	25	
[ ]	NGC 5128	13 25.5	-43 01	7.0	35	Glxy	18'X14'	Cen	403	21	Centaurus A
[ ]	NGC 5139	13 26.8	-47 29	3.5	-----	GbCl	36.0'	Cen	403	21	Omega Centauri
[ ]	NGC 5286	13 46.4	-51 22	7.6	-----	GbCl	9.1'	Cen	430	25	
[ ]	NGC 5316	13 53.9	-61 52	6.0	-----	OpCl	13.0'	Cen	430	25	
[ ]	NGC 5460	14 07.6	-48 19	5.6	-----	OpCl	25.0'	Cen	404	21	
[ ]	NGC 5617	14 29.8	-60 43	6.3	-----	OpCl	10.0'	Cen	430	25	
[ ]	NGC 5662	14 35.2	-56 33	5.5	-----	OpCl	12.0'	Cen	431	25	
[ ]	NGC 5822	15 05.2	-54 21	6.5	-----	OpCl	39.0'	Lup	431	25	
[ ]	NGC 5823	15 05.7	-55 36	7.9	-----	OpCl	10.0'	Cir	431	25	
[ ]	NGC 5925	15 27.7	-54 31	8.4	-----	OpCl	14.0'	Nor	431	25	
[ ]	NGC 6025	16 03.7	-60 30	5.1	-----	OpCl	12.0'	TrA	432	26	
[ ]	NGC 6067	16 13.2	-54 13	5.6	-----	OpCl	12.0'	Nor	432	26	
[ ]	H 10	16 15.6	-54 52	9.0	-----	OpCl	30.0'	Nor	432	26	
[ ]	NGC 6087	16 18.9	-57 54	5.4	-----	OpCl	12.0'	Nor	432	26	
[ ]	NGC 6124	16 25.6	-40 40	5.8	-----	OpCl	40.0'	Sco	407	22	
[ ]	NGC 6134	16 27.7	-49 09	7.2	-----	OpCl	6.0'	Nor	407	22	
[ ]	NGC 6152	16 32.7	-52 37	8.1	-----	OpCl	29.0'	Nor	433	26	
[ ]	NGC 6167	16 34.4	-49 36	6.7	-----	OpCl	7.0'	Nor	407	22	
[ ]	NGC 6208	16 49.5	-53 49	7.2	-----	OpCl	15.0'	Ara	433	26	
[ ]	NGC 6231	16 54.0	-41 48	2.6	-----	OpCl	14.0'	Sco	407	22	
[ ]	H 13	17 01.7	-48 06	9.0	-----	OpCl	15.0'	Ara	407	22	
[ ]	IC 4651	17 24.7	-49 57	6.9	-----	OpCl	12.0'	Ara	408	22	
[ ]	NGC 6352	17 25.5	-48 25	8.1	-----	GbCl	7.1'	Ara	408	22	
[ ]	NGC 6362	17 31.9	-67 03	8.3	-----	GbCl	10.7'	Ara	455	26	
[ ]	NGC 6397	17 40.7	-53 40	5.7	-----	GbCl	25.7'	Ara	434	26	
[ ]	NGC 6541	18 08.0	-43 42	6.1	-----	GbCl	13.0'	CrA	409	22	
[ ]	NGC 6584	18 18.6	-52 13	9.2	-----	GbCl	7.9'	Tel	434	26	
[ ]	NGC 6752	19 10.9	-59 59	5.4	-----	GbCl	20.4'	Pav	435	26	



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	Type Instrument		
<b>Object</b>	Date	Time	
	Power	Seeing	
	Type Instrument		
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