



## **NOBLE PLANETARIUM SKYLINE July 2008**

**Mercury:** Mercury is in the dawn sky briefly this month. At the beginning of July, this planet is low in the east-northeast at first light. Mercury never strays far from the Sun in our sky, so it is not easy to find in the glare.

**Venus:** This planet is not visible at the beginning of this month. Venus is too close to the Sun to view. By mid-July Venus appears in the northwest in the evening sky. By the 26<sup>th</sup> Venus in the constellation Leo the Lion and sets about an hour after sunset. Observers see Venus as the “evening star” for the rest of the year.

**Mars:** Mars is low in the western sky in the early evening. This planet is much fainter when compared to its brilliant orange glow that was observed in January. Mars and Saturn make an interesting pair in Leo the Lion this month.

**Jupiter:** Jupiter shines brightly all night. This planet is at its best and brightest for the year in July. It rises at dusk in the southeast and seems to move low across the south during the night. This planet is in Sagittarius the Archer. Jupiter sets at sunrise.

**Saturn:** Saturn is near Mars in the early evening low in the west. This planet spends the year in Leo, the Lion. It is close to the “heart of the lion, the bright star Regulus.

\*\*\*\*\* **July Moon** \*\*\*\*\*

<b>The Moon:</b>	<b>New Moon:</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>First Quarter:</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Full Moon:</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>18</b>
	<b>Last Quarter:</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>25</b>

The Moon, Mars, Saturn and the bright star, Regulus, line up low in the west in early evening of July 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. On July 13<sup>th</sup> the Moon passes close to Antares, the brightest star of Scorpius, the Scorpion. Jupiter is near and to the left of the Moon at nightfall on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*\*\* **Star Party** \*\*\*\*\*

Please plan to join us for free telescope observing on Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. Members of the Fort Worth Astronomical Society join the staff of the Noble Planetarium on the North parking lot of the museum with their telescopes. These Saturday evening Star Parties are free and open to the public.

- Saturday, July 12, 2008
- Saturday, August 9, 2008
- Saturday, September 6, 2008
- Saturday, October 4, 2008

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For more information about the night sky check out our website at  
[www.fortworthmuseum.org](http://www.fortworthmuseum.org)  
or contact the Noble Planetarium at 817.255.9300  
or email at [planet@fwms.org](mailto:planet@fwms.org)

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