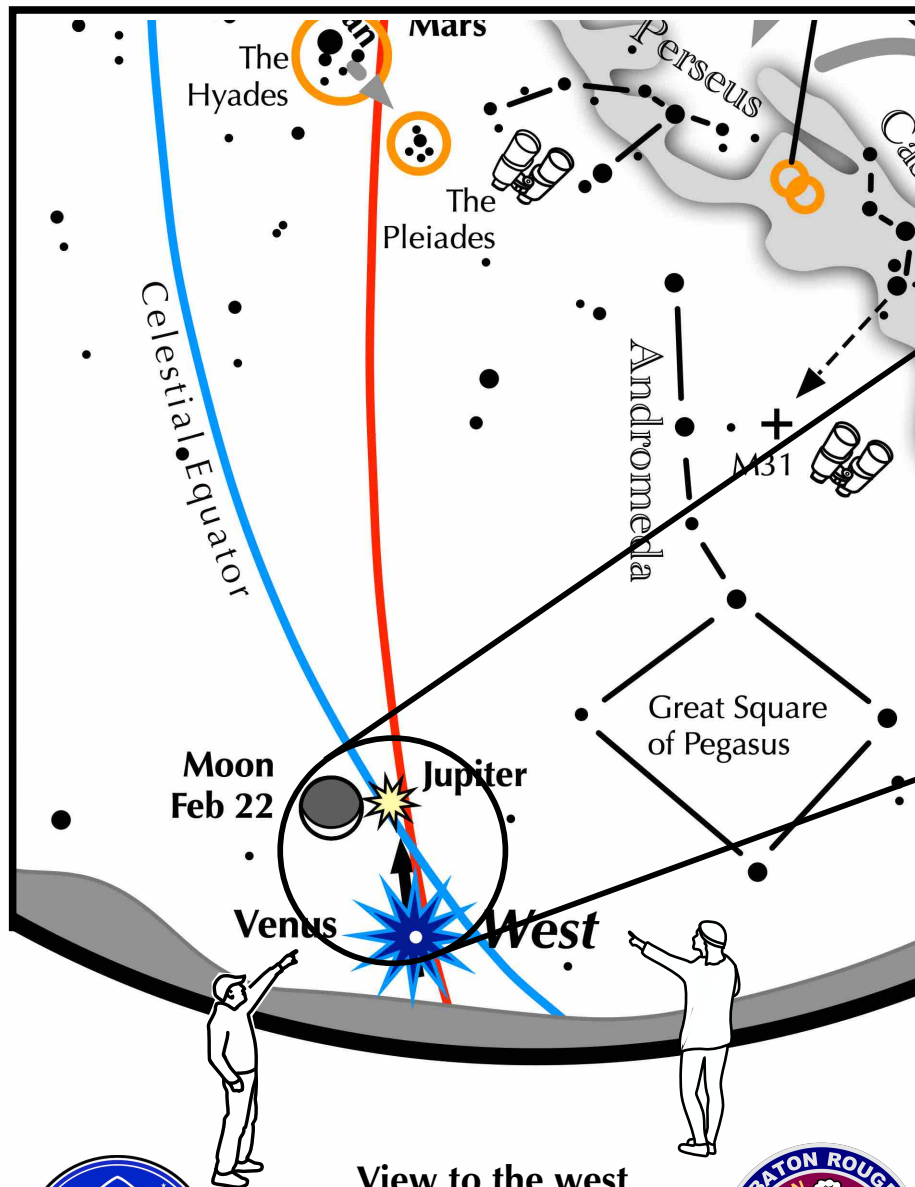
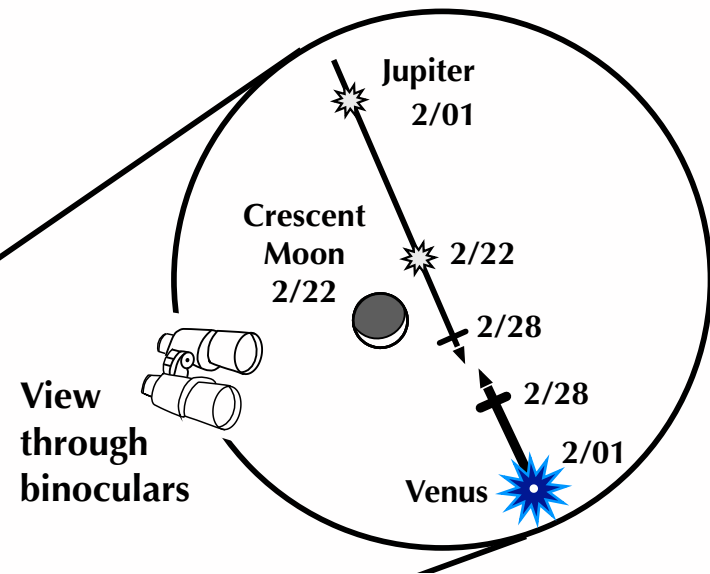


# In the early evenings during the second half of February, try this challenge:



**View to the west  
in Late February  
40 minutes after sunset**



## Venus approaches Jupiter

On February 1, Venus appears low above the western horizon 40 minutes after sunset. As the month proceeds, the bright planet climbs higher each evening. Jupiter, on the otherhand, begins the month much higher than Venus, and drops closer to the horizon each evening.

On February 22, the crescent moon joins the scene as it floats left of Jupiter. Look to the west 40 minutes after sunset for the pair. Binoculars allows you to admire the softly glowing earthshine on the night side of the moon. Almost magical!

For the rest of the month, Jupiter approaches Venus. Watch their gap narrow each evening. Finally, on March 1, they nearly bump into each other.