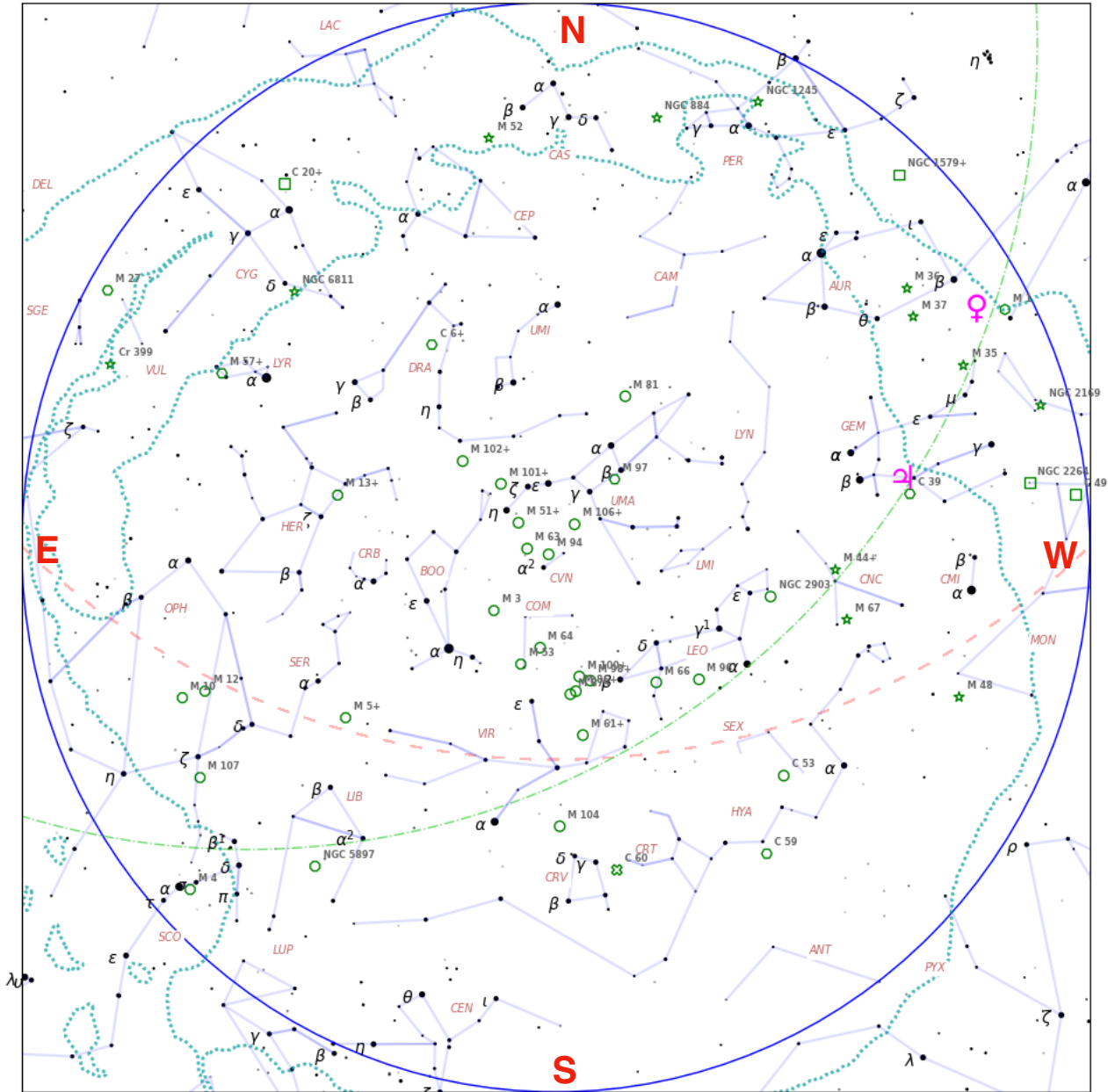


# MAY 2026



**The Northern Berkshire  
Astronomical Society**  
Meets the first Wednesday of every month, at the  
North Adams Public Library at 6 PM.  
74 Church St. North Adams MA

## Look Out!

... well out of the Galactic plane. The Milky Way is on the horizon in almost every direction: overhead, we're close to the location of the North Galactic Pole (it's in Coma Berenices) with hundreds of galaxies to see "out".

## Constellations

ANT - Antlia - *the Air Pump*  
 AUR - Auriga - *the Charioteer*  
 BOO - Boötes - *the Herdsman*  
 CAM - Camelopardalis - *the Giraffe*  
 CAS - Cassiopeia - *the Queen of Ethiopia*  
 CEN - Centaurus - *the Centaur*  
 CEP - Cepheus - *the King of Ethiopia*  
 CMI - Canis Minor - *the Lesser Dog*  
 CNC - Cancer - *the Crab*  
 COM - Coma Berenices - *Berenices' Hair*  
 CRB - Corona Borealis - *the Northern Crown*  
 CRT - Crater - *the Cup*  
 CRV - Corvus - *the Crow*  
 CVN - Canes Venatici - *the Hunting Dogs*  
 CYG - Cygnus - *the Swan*  
 DRA - Draco - *the Dragon*  
 GEM - Gemini - *the Twins*  
 HER - Hercules - *Hercules*  
 HYA - Hydra - *the Water Snake*  
 LAC - Lacerta - *the Lizard*  
 LEO - Leo - *the Lion*  
 LIB - Libra - *the Scales*  
 LMI - Leo Minor - *the Lesser Lion*  
 LUP - Lupus - *the Wolf*  
 LYN - Lynx - *the Lynx*  
 LYR - Lyra - *the Harp*  
 MON - Monoceros - *the Unicorn*  
 OPH - Ophiuchus - *the Serpent Bearer*  
 PER - Perseus - *the Hero*  
 PYX - Pyxis - *the Mariner's Compass*  
 SCO - Scorpius - *the Scorpion*  
 SER - Serpens - *the Serpent*  
 SEX - Sextans - *the Sextant*  
 TAU - Taurus - *the Bull*  
 UMA - Ursa Major - *the Great Bear*  
 UMI - Ursa Minor - *the Lesser Bear*  
 VIR - Virgo - *the Virgin*  
 VUL - Vulpecula - *the Little Fox*

## How to Use the Chart

South is at the bottom, if you hold the chart “up” against the sky, facing South, then East will be to your left and West to the right. (Or if you hold the map upside-down and face North, East will be to the right, West to the left.)

On the chart, the orange dashed line shows the celestial Equator; the green dashed-dotted line the Ecliptic. The Milky Way is outlined with a blue dotted line.

Date	Time
May 1	11:00 PM (EDT)
May 8	10:30 PM
May 15	10:00 PM
May 22	9:30 PM
May 29	9:00 PM

Because of the Earth’s motion around the Sun, the time for this chart changes slowly over time, roughly 1/2 hour earlier every week:

## Planets

**Mercury** and **Mars** are close to the Sun this month.

**Venus** is well above the horizon in evening twilight setting 2½ hours after the Sun

**Jupiter** in Gemini, sets around midnight

**Saturn** is in Cetus, but rises just before the Sun

**Uranus** is in Taurus, near the Pleiades but sets just after the Sun

**Neptune** is in Pisces, rising 20 minutes before Saturn just before morning twilight.