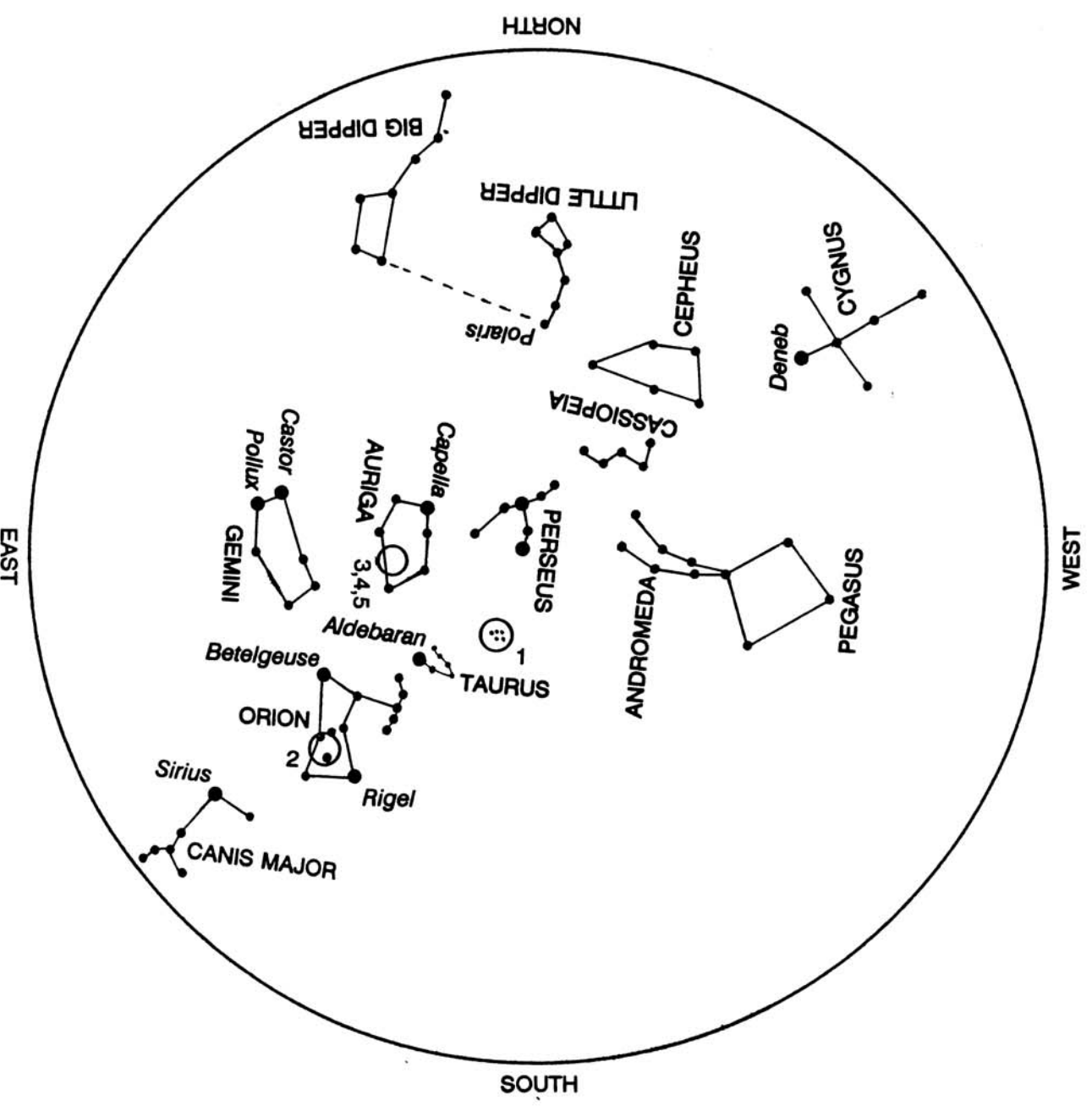
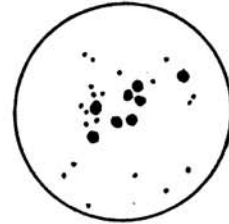


# January (Approximately 6:00 p.m.)



## 1. Pleiades



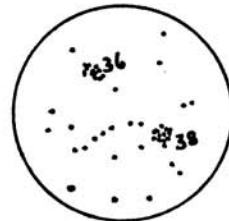
Open Cluster in Taurus R.A. 03<sup>h</sup>43.9<sup>m</sup> Dec. 23°58'  
 Other names: Seven Sisters, M45  
 To some it resembles a little dipper. This cluster is 410 ly away, and approximately 50 stars can be seen with binoculars. The nine brightest stars lie within a circle 7 ly in diameter, with the rest of the cluster stretching out to a diameter of 20 ly.

## 2. Orion Nebula



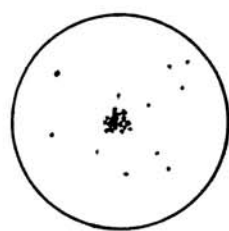
Diffuse Nebula in Orion R.A. 05<sup>h</sup> 32.9<sup>m</sup> Dec. -5° 25'  
 Other names: M42 or NGC 1976  
 The fuzzy second star in Orion's sword is the brightest diffuse nebula in our skies. M42 lies about 1700 ly away. Its bright central region is 5-6 ly across with the rest of the nebula stretching out to approximately 30 ly in diameter. M42 will appear as a pale, wispy cloud through your binoculars.

## 3. M36



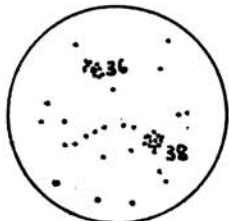
Open Cluster in Auriga R.A. 05<sup>h</sup>32.9<sup>m</sup> Dec. 34°07'  
 Other name: NGC 1960  
 This cluster is the smallest and brightest of three open clusters in Auriga. M36 is 4100 ly distant and contains about 60 stars grouped within a circle 14 ly diameter. See M37 & M38.

## 4. M37



Open Cluster in Auriga R.A. 05<sup>h</sup> 49.0<sup>m</sup> Dec. 32°33'  
 Other name: NGC 2099  
 One of three open clusters in Auriga. M37 will appear as a faint cloud through binoculars with no individual stars easily resolved. This cluster is 4600 ly distant, 25 ly in diameter and contains 150 stars. See M36 & M38.

## 5. M38



Open Cluster in Auriga R.A. 05<sup>h</sup> 25.3<sup>m</sup> Dec. 35°48'  
 Other name: NGC 1912  
 Largest and dimmest of three open clusters in Auriga. Brighter individual stars can be resolved from the faint haze of the rest of the cluster. M38 lies at a distance of 4200 ly and is approximately 25 ly in diameter. Over 100 stars reside within the cluster. See M36 & M37.