

# CONSTELLATION *addendum . . .*

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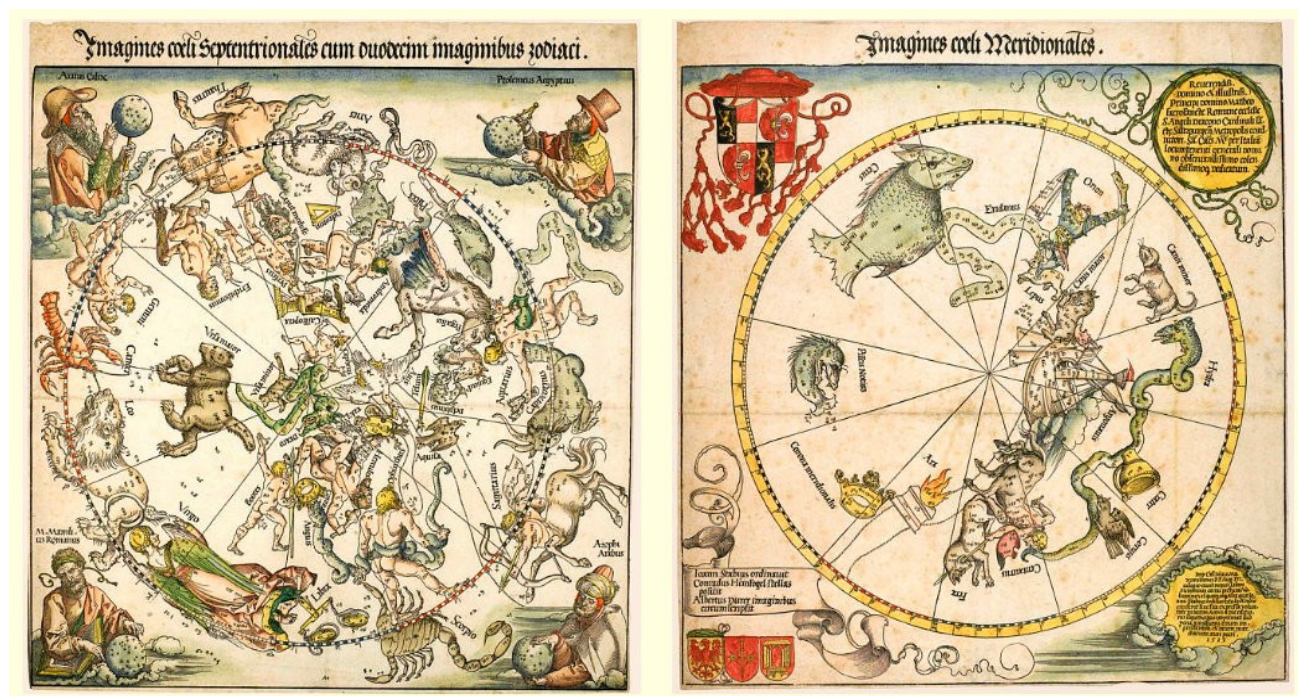
Winter 2017

Scott Petersen, editor © 2017 BMAA

## Ancient Star Charts

Our February guest speaker, Ray Harris (LVAAS) provided an excellent overview of Star Charts throughout history. Through numerous visuals, he provided great examples of the milestones in recording information about the skies. It was interesting to see how leaps in technology enabled more accurate charting methods. Ray has a fabulous personal collection of star charts to draw upon and is continually adding to his library. These chart reproductions were displayed at the February meeting:

The first one is Albrecht Durer's charts from 1515 - the very first accurate printed star charts. These were printed from woodcuts.



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- Ancient Star Charts, continued -

The second one is from Bayer's "Uranometria" (1603) and shows newly invented constellations around the south celestial pole created to fill in the blank areas that weren't visible to astronomers in Europe. These charts were printed from engraved copper plates which were far superior to woodcuts. These still predate the invention of the telescope.



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- Ancient Star Charts, concluded -

This last chart is from Cellarius' atlas of 1660 and simply shows the beauty and art that was used to represent the heavens.



- These graphics were provided by Ray Harris (LVAAS) [-ed]

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## Community Outreach: Exo-Planets at Warminster Library

During the month of February BMAA did two outreach events at the Warminster Free Library for students in 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grades. There were about twenty students who attended four sessions at the library devoted to the topic of Exo-Planets, a timely subject these days. Dwight Dulsky reported on this recently in the *CONSTELLATION*, Vol32 No1a.



— These images were supplied by Andreana Duffy with Warminster Township Library [-ed]

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