

# THE LUNAR OBSERVER

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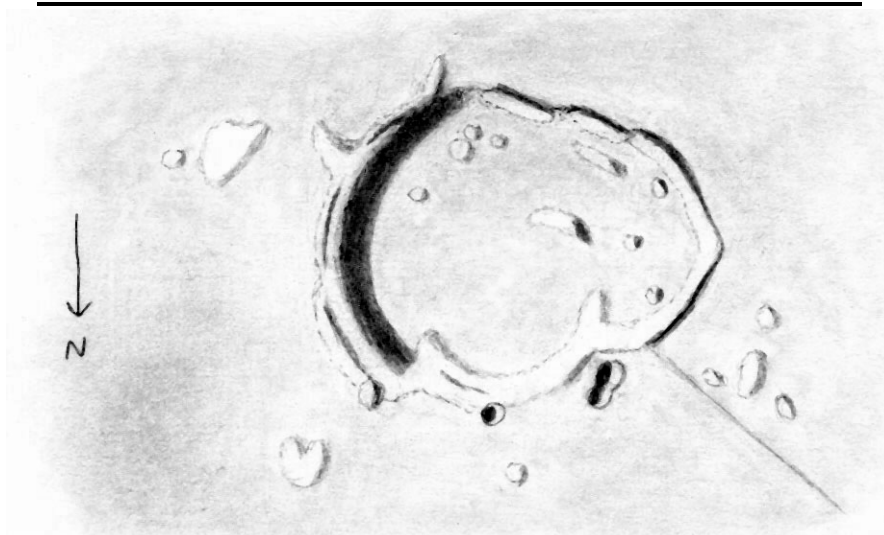
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSLETTER FOR STUDENTS OF THE MOON . . . FEBRUARY 2002

EDITED BY: Bill Dembowski - ALPO Coordinator, Lunar Topographical Studies - President, American Lunar Society

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## FEATURE OF THE MONTH



GOCLENIUS (10.0S - 45.0E)

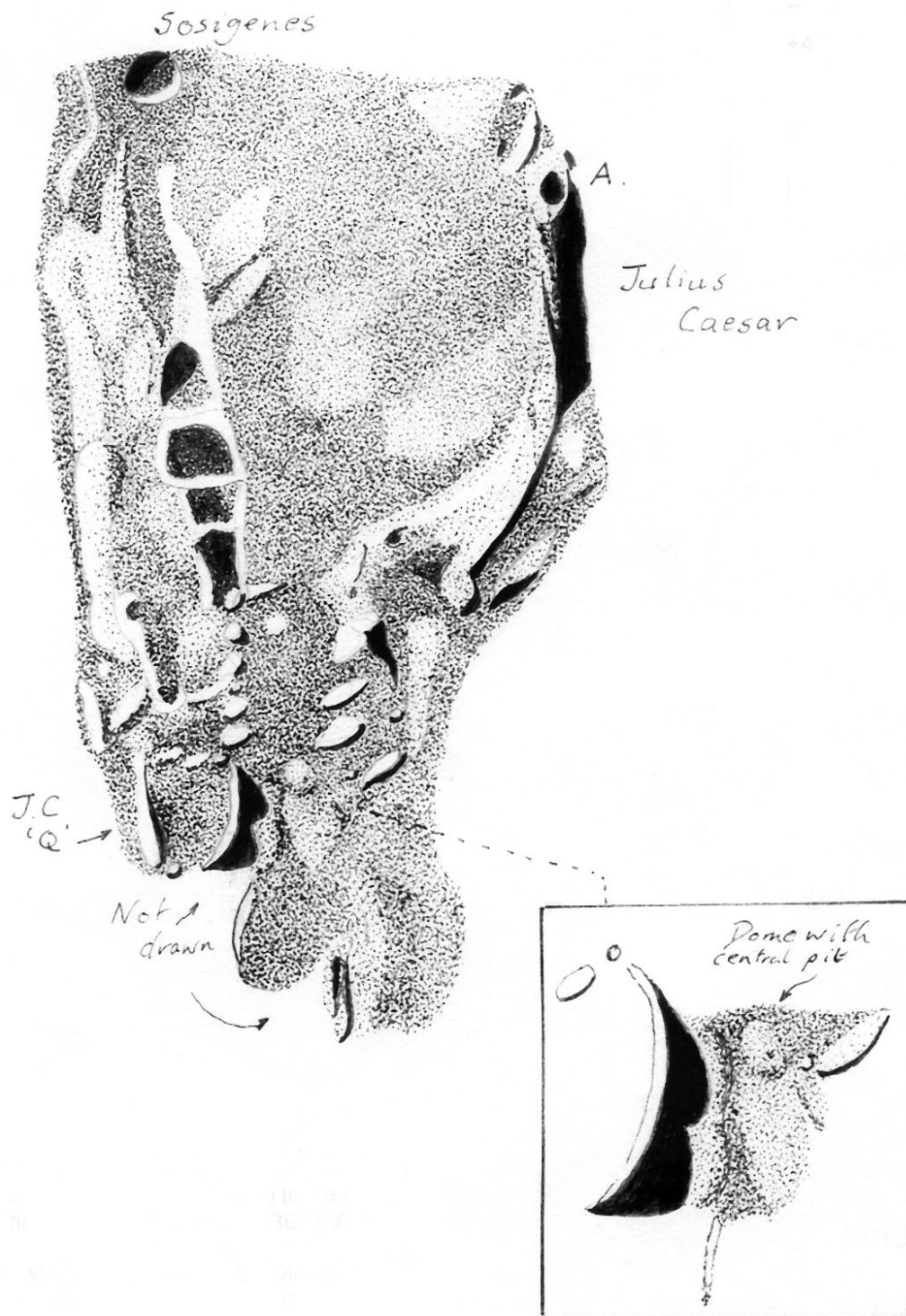
Sketch and Text by Robert H. Hays, Jr. - Worth, Illinois, USA

June 26, 2001 - 6 inch Newtonian - 136X - Seeing 6/10

I drew this crater on the evening of June 25/26, 2001 while timing two occultations. I used a lower power than usual since the seeing wouldn't allow the higher power very well. This crater is near the west edge of Mare Fecunditatis. Goclenius appears to be the result of two (or more) impacts judging from the appearance of its rim and its east-west elongation despite being well to the east of the visible center. The rim of Goclenius appears to be complete but its floor is the same tint as the mare. I saw no craters within its rim but I did see nine detached peaks. One or two of these elevations, along with a ridge extending inward from the rim, could be the remains of an old crater rim. The east and north rims of Goclenius may show evidence of terracing. A small crater pit was perched on the north rim, while Goclenius B appeared as a double crater farther to the west. An assortment of low elevations were noted nearby. The Lunar Quadrant Map shows several rilles in the area, but the only one I saw was one outside of the rim of Goclenius, west of Goclenius B. The map shows this rille within Goclenius, but I did not see it within the rim. The seeing really wasn't steady enough for rille observation.

Editor: Goclenius can be found on Map 48 of Rukl's Atlas of the Moon

# LUNAR NOTEBOOK



**JULIUS CAESAR AND DOME TO NORTHWEST**  
Sketch and Text by Colin Ebdon - Colchester, Essex, England  
June 27, 2001 - 10 inch f/6.5 Newtonian - 183X

(Editor: Text on Page Three)

## (JULIUS CAESAR AND DOME TO NORTHWEST) (By Colin Ebdon)

Notes: This drawing was made to follow up an observation by Nigel Longshaw on 2001 April 29 of a dome to the Northwest of Julius Caesar P. (See TLO, October 2001) This dome is not evident in Rukl's Atlas.

The dome appeared elliptical in shape, though not particularly elongated and was angled SE to NW. It was easily spotted from Nigel's drawing and one would expect to find it as an entry in most comprehensive lunar dome catalogues and lists.

The present observer does not usually find it easy to pick out the central pit common to many lunar domes, but this one was readily spotted, appearing perhaps slightly off centre towards the NW. The dome is evidently not particularly shallow, as it was quite prominent away from the terminator.

## LUNAR CALENDAR – FEBRUARY 2002 (UT)

3 ... 01:00 ... Moon 6.6 Degrees NNE of Spica  
4 ... 13:35 ... Last Quarter  
10 ... 06:00 ... Moon 5.0 Degrees S of Mercury  
11 ... 02:00 ... Moon 3.6 Degrees SSE of Neptune  
12 ... 07:42 ... New Moon (Start of Lunation 979)  
14 ... 22:00 ... Moon at Apogee (252,502 miles – 406,351 km)  
17 ... 05:00 ... Moon 4.6 Degrees SSE of Mars  
20 ... 12:03 ... First Quarter  
21 ... 00:00 ... Moon 0.18 Degrees NW of Saturn  
23 ... 02:00 ... Moon 0.89 NNW of Jupiter  
27 ... 09:17 ... Full Moon  
27 ... 20:00 ... Moon at Perigee (221,766 miles – 356,888 km)

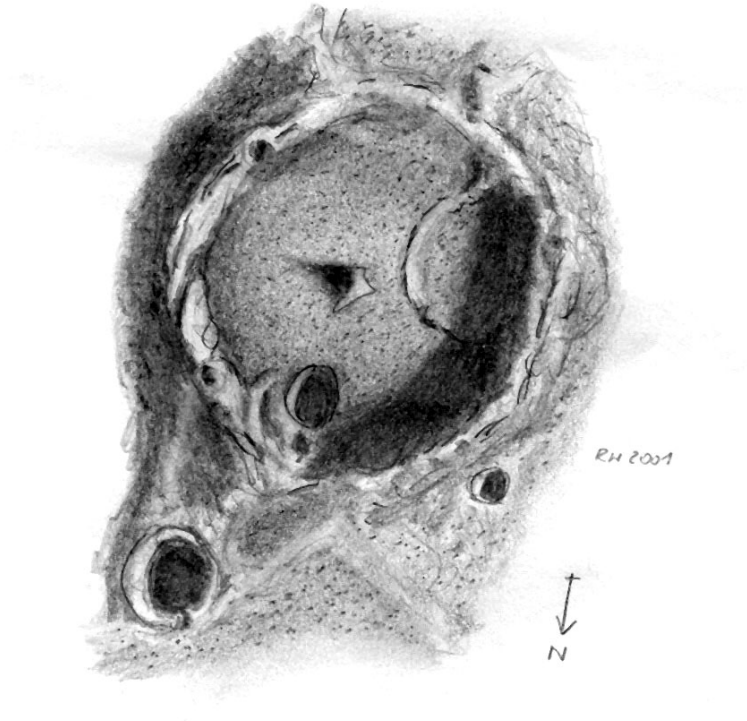
## FROM THE EDITOR:

I would like to apologize for the late publication of TLO. I experienced some fatal computer problems which left me unable to do anything. Add to that a broken right leg which left me quite immobile and unable to install my new machine. Then, just as I was about to have my cumbersome cast removed, I came down with a semi-serious medical condition which had me in and out of the hospital several times.

Those who contributed observations during the down-time will receive full credit in the March issue. I thank you for your patience and understanding.

Clear and Steady Skies . . . . WMD

# TOPOGRAPHICAL STUDIES



## ALBATEGNIUS

Sketch by Robert Włodarczyk - Częstochowa, Poland  
October 8, 2001 - 150mm Newtonian - 160X



## CASSINI

CCD Image by Ed Crandall - Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA  
October 24, 2001 - 10 inch Newtonian - Seeing 5/10