

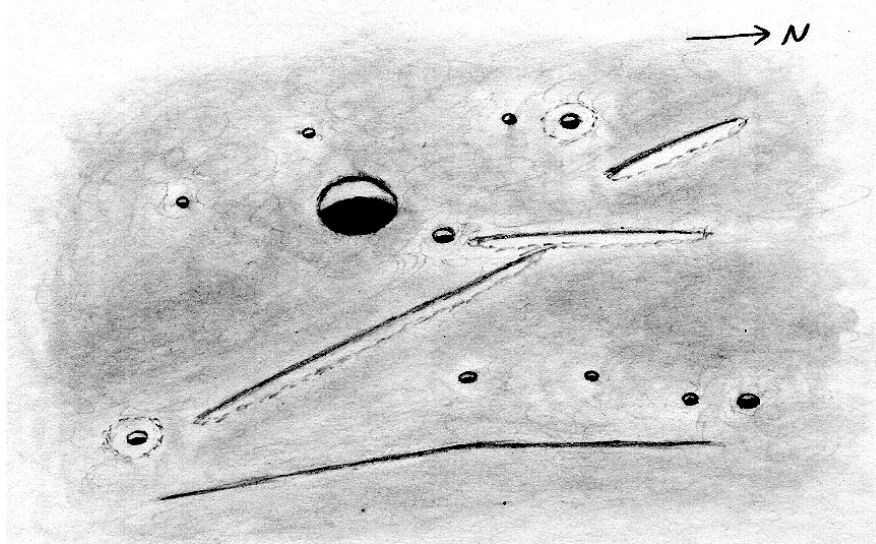


THE LUNAR OBSERVER

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSLETTER FOR STUDENTS OF THE MOON – SEPTEMBER 2003

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FEATURE OF THE MONTH



HERMANN (0.9°S – 57.3°W)

Sketch and Text by Robert H. Hays, Jr. – Worth, Illinois, USA
January 16, 2003 – 15cm Newtonian – 170x – Seeing 7-9/10

I drew this crater and vicinity on the evening of January 15/16, 2003 before timing the disappearances of ZC 880 and a nearby star. Hermann is located in western Oceanus Procellarum. This is a modest, ordinary-looking crater with a substantial sprinkling of small craters nearby. Hermann B is just north of Hermann., while Hermann A is toward the northwest and has a small halo. I saw three tiny pits south of Hermann A and Hermann that are not shown on the Lunar Quadrant Maps. A north-south chain of craterlets lies northeast of Hermann; these are Hermann F, S, R, and BA from north to south. Continuing southward along this line is a small pit with a bright, diffuse halo, much like Hermann A. This appears to be the crater Damoiseau G, according to the Lunar Quadrant Map. I noted three straight ridges in this area. One goes northward from near Hermann B and is parallel to the four crater chain mentioned earlier. Two others angle from southeast to northwest, and would be parallel to each other if they were longer. One lies east of Hermann, and joins the south-north one north of Hermann B, and the other ridge is north of Hermann A. I noted a sharp, narrow shadow east of the crater chain. This is either a rille or a fault. This feature is not quite straight, but has a slight bend near Hermann BA.

OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED

MICHAEL AMATO - WEST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, USA
Ray Maps of Kepler (4), Aristarchus (4), Proclus (1), Messier (2), Menelaus (2)

WILLIAM ELSBURY – MASON CITY, IOWA, USA
CCD Images of Birt & Rupes Recta, Eratosthenes, Stadius, Mare Imbrium

HOWARD ESKILDSEN – OCALA, FLORIDA, USA
CCD Image of 15-day Moon

ROBIN GRAY – WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA, USA
Sketch and brightness estimates of Gassendi

PETER GREGO – REDNAL, BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND
Sketch of Bullialdus

JOSEPH H.C. LIU – SALINAS, CALIFORNIA, USA
CCD Images of Albategnius & Hipparchus, Walter & environs

K. C. PAU – HONG KONG, CHINA
CCD Images of Mare Frigoris, Rupes Altai, Torricelli, Lacus Mortis, Posidonius

GUIDO SANTACANA – SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO
Sketch of Aristarchus

BRENDAN SHAW – ENGLAND
CCD Image of Atlas Companion

CLYDE SIMPSON – CLEVELAND, OHIO, USA
Sketch of Gassendi

RODRIGO VIEGAS – MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY
Sketches of Birt & Rupes Recta, Gambart & Turner, Gambart C & domes (3), Grimaldi

ROBERT WLODARCZYK - CZESTOCHOWA, POLAND
Sketches of Plutarch & Seneca & Hahn, From Grove to Burg, Taruntius, Clavius

From the Editor:

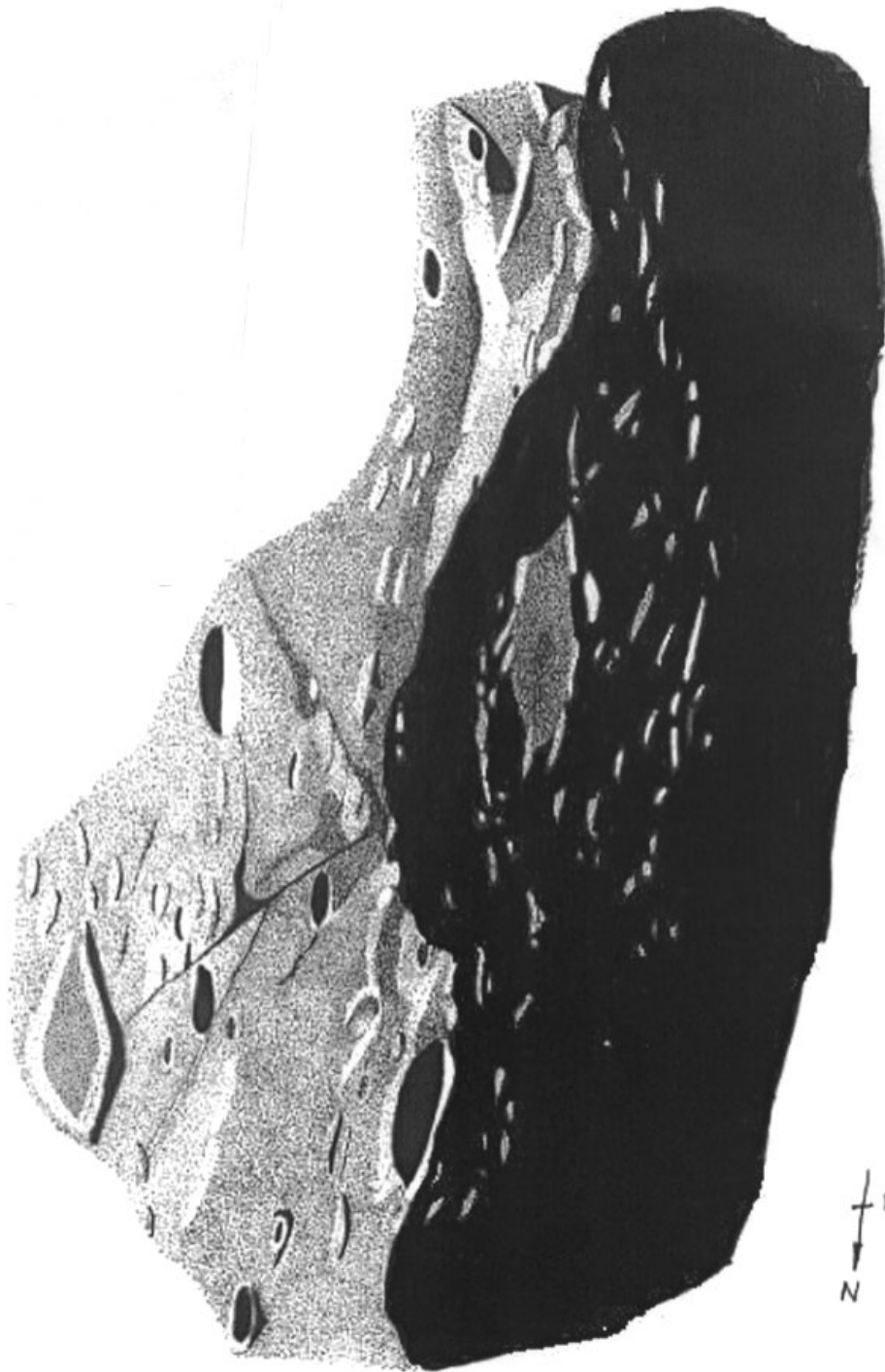
This is just a reminder that observations submitted for publication are best if they include the following:

Name and location of observer
Date and time (UT) of observation
Magnification (for sketches)

Name of feature
Size and type of telescope used
Medium employed (for photos and electronic images)

Clear and steady skies WMD

LUNAR NOTEBOOK

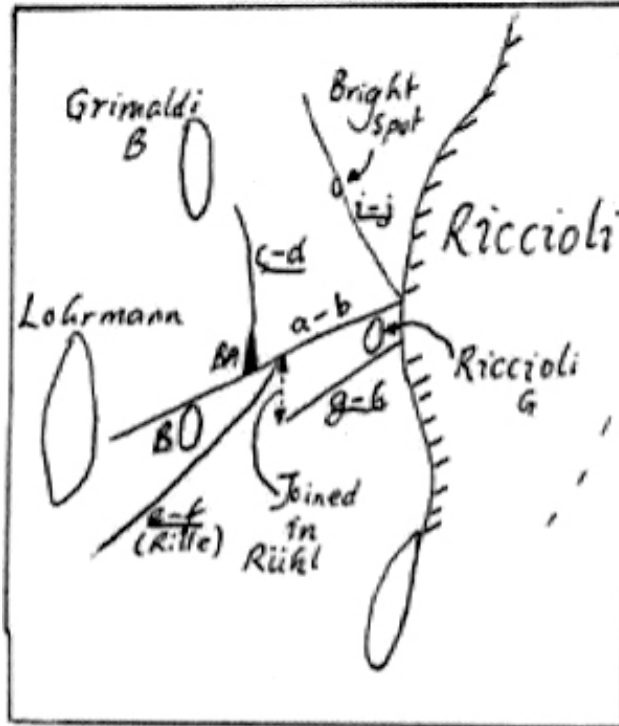


RICCIOLI TO LOHRMANN

Sketch and Notes by Colin Ebdon – Colchester, Essex, England
March 16-17, 2003 – 10 inch Newtonian – 236x

Notes on sketch of Riccioli to Lohrmann – Colin Ebdon

The seeing was exceptional at times with very fine detail that was impossible to record briefly coming into view. The outline of Riccioli presented itself as dozens of shards of light, with a central “island” where the floor was illuminated.



KEY

The dark line marked a-b running from Riccioli, just south of the crater C and terminating at Lohrmann, appears in Rukl to be a sharply delineated ridge rather than a rille, and has appeared as such to the present observer on other occasions.

Halfway along its length, a triangular shadow (which appeared to be in the position of the crater BA in deep shadow) marked the beginning of another dark line (indicated as c-d in the Key) running North-South at right angles to the first and which was presumably a secondary ridge. This extended almost as far as the crater Grimaldi B.

A true rille (c-f in the Key) ran Northeast from this point, North of the craters B and M (Rukl) terminating in some low hills to the North of Lohrmann.

There was another line (g-h) running Northeast, Just North of Riccioli G for a short way. Rukl shows this as continuing in to the rille designated (e-f) here, but this did not seem to be the case.

A slightly wider band of shadow (marked i-j) ran Southeast from the same starting point, and this seemed to delineate a more shallow ridge. There was a very bright spot seen half-way along its length, possible indicative of either a small hill or a tiny craterlet.

LUNAR CALENDAR – SEPT. 2003 (UT)

- 03 . . . 12:35 . . . First Quarter
- 09 . . . 06:00 . . . Moon 5 Degrees S of Uranus
- 10 . . . 16:35 . . . Full Moon
- 16 . . . 09:00 . . . Moon at Apogee (251,477 miles – 404,702 km)
- 18 . . . 19:03 . . . Last Quarter
- 20 . . . 03:00 . . . Moon 4.7 Degrees N of Saturn
- 24 . . . 06:00 . . . Moon 4.1 Degrees NNE of Jupiter
- 26 . . . 03:08 . . . New Moon (Start of Lunation 999)
- 28 . . . 06:00 . . . Moon at Perigee (225,455 miles – 362,825 km)

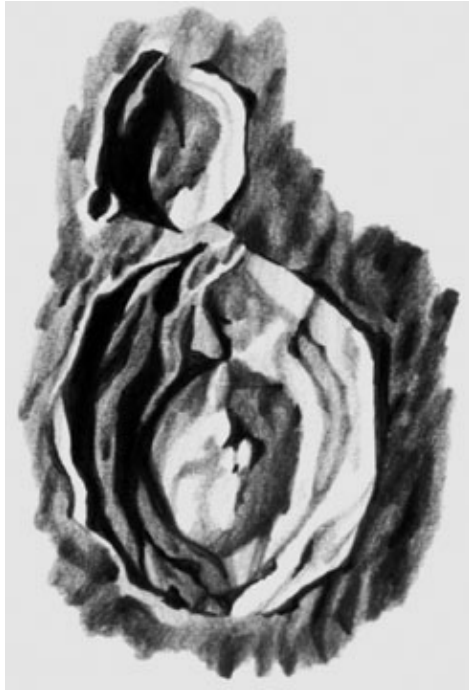
TOPOGRAPHICAL STUDIES



GASSENDI

CCD Image by Jack Kramer – Libertyville, Illinois, USA
March 14, 2003 – 6 inch Refractor – Sony DSC70

TOPOGRAPHICAL STUDIES



BULLIALDUS

Sketch by Peter Grego – Rednal, Birmingham, England
July 9, 2003 – 127mm MCT – 155x



POSIDONIUS

Video Still by K.C. Pau – Hong Kong, China
July 18, 2003 – 212mm Newt-Cass. – Philips Toucam Pro