

Our Night Sky for July 15th, 2024

Last week I offered you directions to a lovely night sky object almost overhead and just a little below the bright star Vega. The constellation is called Lyra. The object is called the Ring Nebula, the remnant of a star that exploded about 1600 years ago or as my youngest daughter called it those many years ago, the exploding Cheerio. And that evening with your children finding your way to constellations and many easily accessed deep sky objects makes the days problems evaporate.

The Ring Nebula is a beautiful sight but quite small.

Lets next look at an object much, much larger. By mid July if you look due south, you will see the center of our galaxy. If you are fortunate to find yourself in a very dark area of BC perhaps further south of PG., you may be able see the largest object imaginable. The core of the milky way consists of millions upon millions of stars and if the conditions allow you may be able to see the shape of this enormous ball of stars. A true wonder of Our Night Sky.