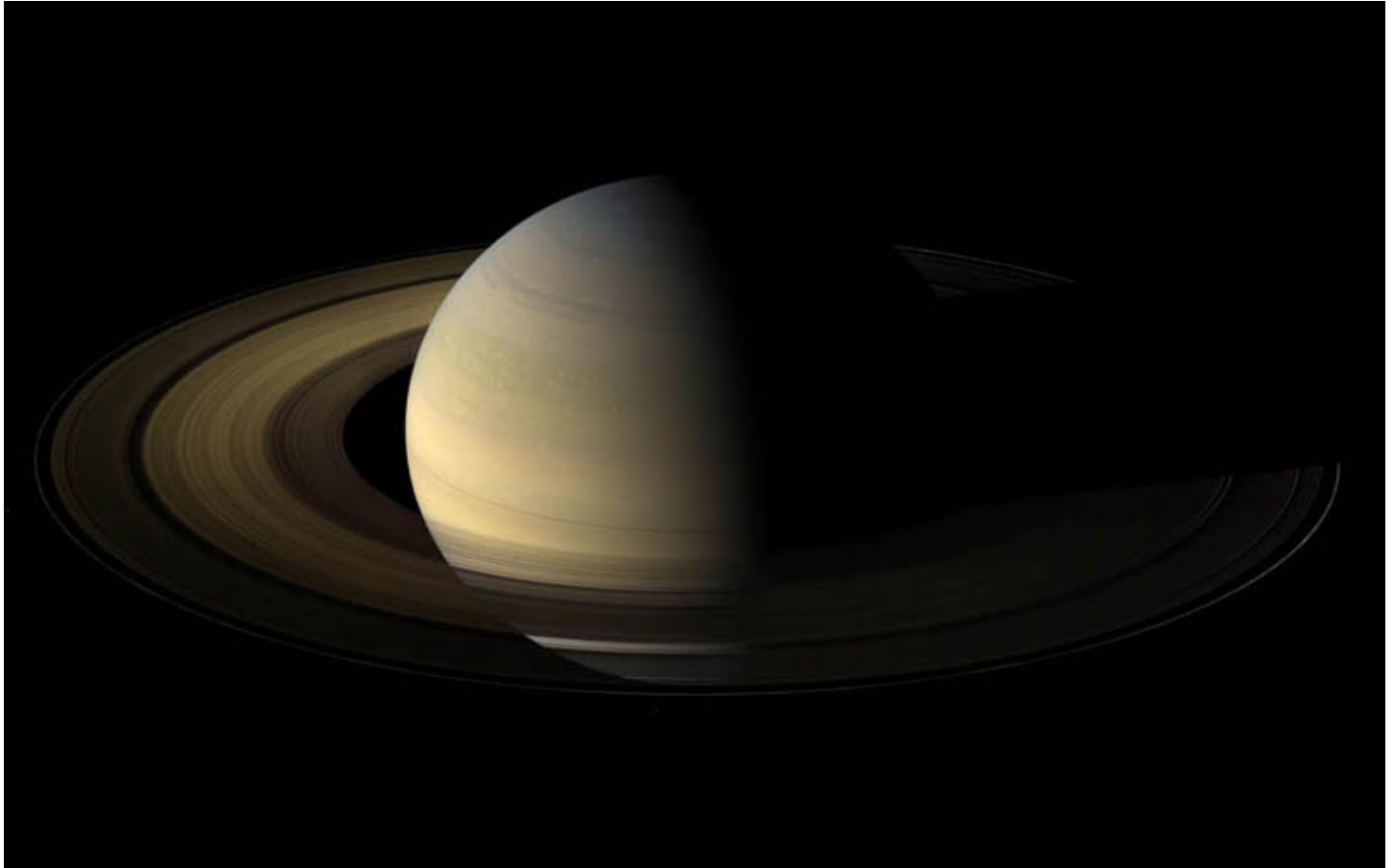


Astronomy Club of Tulsa

Observer



November 2009



Equinox at Saturn

NASA / JPL – Cassini Mission

Inside This Issue:

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Important ACT Upcoming Dates:

ACT Annual Dinner Meeting - Fri, Nov. 6, 2009
ISLAMORADA Fish Co. @ Bass Pro (p7)
Doors Open – 6:00 pm / Orders Taken – 6:30 pm

MOON... Fri, Nov. 13, 2009
(Members Only Observing Night)

RMCC Work Day... Sat, Nov. 14, 2009 10 am

Public Star Party... Fri, Nov. 20, 2009 (p13)

November 2009

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 DST Ends Sunrise: 6:46am Sunset: 5:28pm Moonrise: 4:31pm Moonset: 5:35am	2 Sunrise: 6:47am Sunset: 5:27pm Moonrise: 5:08pm Moonset: 6:42am Full Moon: 1:14pm	3 Sunrise: 6:48am Sunset: 5:26pm Moonrise: 5:51pm Moonset: 7:51am	4 Sunrise: 6:49am Sunset: 5:25pm Moonrise: 6:44pm Moonset: 8:59am	5 Sunrise: 6:50am Sunset: 5:24pm Moonrise: 7:45pm Moonset: 10:04am	6 ACT DINNER MEETING Sunrise: 6:51am Sunset: 5:23pm Moonrise: 8:52pm Moonset: 11:02am	7 Sunrise: 6:52am Sunset: 5:22pm Moonrise: 10:03pm Moonset: 11:51am
8 Sunrise: 6:53am Sunset: 5:22pm Moonrise: 11:15pm Moonset: 12:33pm	9 Sunrise: 6:54am Sunset: 5:21pm Moonrise: none Moonset: 1:09pm Last Qtr: 9:56am	10 Sunrise: 6:55am Sunset: 5:20pm Moonrise: 12:24am Moonset: 1:41pm	11 Sunrise: 6:56am Sunset: 5:19pm Moonrise: 1:32am Moonset: 2:10pm	12 Sunrise: 6:57am Sunset: 5:18pm Moonrise: 2:39am Moonset: 2:39pm	13 MEMBERS Sunrise: 6:58am Sunset: 5:18pm Moonrise: 3:44am Moonset: 3:09pm	14 Sunrise: 6:59am Sunset: 5:17pm Moonrise: 4:50am Moonset: 3:41pm
15 Sunrise: 7:00am Sunset: 5:16pm Moonrise: 5:56am Moonset: 4:17pm	16 Sunrise: 7:01am Sunset: 5:16pm Moonrise: 7:01am Moonset: 4:57pm New Moon: 1:14pm	17 Sunrise: 7:02am Sunset: 5:15pm Moonrise: 8:04am Moonset: 5:44pm	18 Sunrise: 7:03am Sunset: 5:14pm Moonrise: 9:01am Moonset: 6:36pm	19 Sunrise: 7:04am Sunset: 5:14pm Moonrise: 9:52am Moonset: 7:31pm	20 RMCC PUBLIC Sunrise: 7:05am Sunset: 5:13pm Moonrise: 10:36am Moonset: 8:29pm	21 Sunrise: 7:06am Sunset: 5:13pm Moonrise: 11:14am Moonset: 9:28pm
22 Sunrise: 7:07am Sunset: 5:12pm Moonrise: 11:46am Moonset: 10:26pm	23 Sunrise: 7:08am Sunset: 5:12pm Moonrise: 12:15pm Moonset: 11:23pm	24 Sunrise: 7:09am Sunset: 5:11pm Moonrise: 12:41pm Moonset: none First Qtr: 3:40pm	25 Sunrise: 7:10am Sunset: 5:11pm Moonrise: 1:06pm Moonset: 12:19am	26 Sunrise: 7:11am Sunset: 5:11pm Moonrise: 1:31pm Moonset: 1:17am	27 Sunrise: 7:12am Sunset: 5:10pm Moonrise: 1:58pm Moonset: 2:16am	28 Sunrise: 7:13am Sunset: 5:10pm Moonrise: 2:27pm Moonset: 3:17am
29 Sunrise: 7:14am Sunset: 5:10pm Moonrise: 3:01pm Moonset: 4:22am	30 Sunrise: 7:15am Sunset: 5:09pm Moonrise: 3:42pm Moonset: 5:30am					

Lands Tidbits – by John Land

Welcome Recent New Members: **JEREMY GENTRY, TIMOTHY GIFFORD, COLLETTA MCNEW, BILL BEVENUE, ROBERT TURNAGE - SO FAR THIS YEAR WE HAVE HAD 48 NEW MEMBERS !!**

Our membership rates for 2009 – 2010 will be as follows:

Adults - \$35 per year (includes Astronomical League Membership)

Sr. Adult - discount \$25 per year for those 65 or older (includes Astronomical League Membership)

Students - \$15 (without Astronomical League membership)

Students - \$20 (with Astronomical League membership)

The regular membership allows all members in the family to participate in club events but only ONE voting membership and one Astronomical League membership. If an additional member of the family would like to join with voting rights the additional cost is \$15, and/or additional Astronomical League memberships within a family are \$5 each.

Magazine Subscriptions: If your magazines are coming up for renewal, try to save the mailing label or renewal form you get in the mail. Do NOT mail renewals back to the magazine! To get the club discount you must go through the club group rate.

Astronomy is \$34 for 1 year or \$60 for 2 years. "www.astronomy.com"

Sky & Telescope is \$33 / year. www.skyandtelescope.com (Sky and Telescope also offers a 10% discount on their products.)

Note: You may renew your Sky & Telescope subscription directly with out having to mail in the subscriptions to the club.

NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS must still be sent to the club treasurer. Forms are available on the website.

We now have an automated on line registration form on the website for new AND renewal memberships plus magazine subscriptions. You simply type in your information and hit send to submit the information. "http://www.astroutulsa.com/Club/join.asp"

You can then print a copy of the form and mail in your check to:

**Astronomy Club of Tulsa
25209 E 62nd St
Broken Arrow, OK 74014**

Address Corrections- Email changes – Questions:

You may forward questions to the club by going to our club website (<http://www.astroutulsa.com/>) and fill out an online form or just click on John Land and send an email. Please leave a clear subject line and message with your name, phone number, your question – along with email.

President's Message - November 2009

Greetings to my fellow ACT family! After serving an extended term as vice president, I am very proud and excited to be elected your new president. I would also like to extend congratulations to our new officers Ann Bruun, Vice President; Tamara Green, Secretary; John Land, Treasurer and Board members Steve Chapman, Rod Gallagher, Catherine Kahbi, Dennis Karcher, Teresa Kincannon, Denny Mishler, Chris Proctor, Peggy Walker, and Rick Walker.

I would especially like to recognize two members for accepting appointments to newly created positions. Rick Walker will be our new Program Director and he will be creating our monthly meeting topics and securing guest speakers. Rick arranged our dinner meeting at Islamorada Fish Company. This promises to be a very memorable event, not only with excellent food but we will also be showing pictures of all the activities we've done over the past year. Owen Green will be our new Public Relations Director and he will be working on getting our name and message out to the media and the public.

As the International Year of Astronomy winds down, I am happy to announce that the club will continue with a scaled down sidewalk astronomy schedule in the coming year. These will be one day per month on the Saturday following the general meeting. This will give us an opportunity to get the meeting attendees excited and invite their friends. I encourage all members to participate even if you don't have a telescope since the public is very enthusiastic about learning astronomy.

My goal for next year is to get more of our membership involved in the club. Towards this end we are working to kick our special interest groups into high gear. Radio astronomy, imaging, and telescope making are the ones currently proposed. Also, we have formed a budget and fund raising committee to provide the resources necessary to realize these projects. We are also continuing our Astronomy 101 segments so please send us the topics you'd like to see covered.

Be sure not to miss our dinner meeting on November 6 to enjoy good food and to meet your new officers and board. 2010 promises to be another exciting and fun filled year and I invite everyone to join us on the journey!

- - - - -

I am excited to announce that our December 4th meeting at TCC Metro Campus we will have Dr Gordon Emslie from Oklahoma State University. Dr. Emslie is the Dean of the Oklahoma State University Graduate College and a professor of High-Energy Solar Physics in OSU's Physics Department. His research utilizes data from the NASA Reuven Ramaty High Energy Solar Spectroscopic Imager (RHESSI) (<http://hesperia.gsfc.nasa.gov/hessi/index.html>) satellite. A full bio and presentation title will be in the December newsletter. (<http://physics.okstate.edu/emslie/index.html>)

Our Astronomy 101 topic will be "How to find and Observe Asteroids" by Rod Gallagher.

- - - - -

Keep Looking Up!

Tom McDonough / President, ACT

Secretary's Page

Hi everybody! I am your new secretary with a synopsis on the latest goings-on in the club! I feel that this club is really moving forward and we have got some great things planned for the coming year! So I hope y'all will join us as we go onward and upward!

First off, the meeting on Friday, October 2 at Bass Pro went very well. Our outgoing president Tony White thanked us for the opportunity to serve as president last year and looks forward to all the good times to come with us next year and into the future. He announced that he would not be seeking re-election. Club member Dennis Karcher gave a really good presentation on variable stars and AAVSO. After that, there were the announcements of upcoming events for the month. John Land announced that he had wall calendars for \$10 apiece.

Peggy Walker gave her report on our Woolaroc event, which was a success all in all. The Bartlesville club joined us for that event and reported that they had a really good time. Tony White gave his report on the High Frontier event in Pawhuska with the rocketry club. He also had a very good time with the people who came out and observed with him! He ran three telescopes and had about 40 to 50 people enjoy the night sky.

Then came the elections. Those nominated for president were Rick Walker and Tom McDonough. Nominated for vice president was Ann Bruun. Due to confusion and miscommunication, Teresa Kincannon was nominated for Secretary and Tamara Green for board, but it was actually the other way around. Nominated for Treasurer and Co-Treasurer were John Land and Denny Mishler, respectively. Denny respectfully declined his nomination.

The results of the officers' elections are: Tom McDonough-president, Ann Bruun-vice president, Tamara Green-secretary, John Land-treasurer.

The board elections were next. The board members at large are: Steve Chapman, Dennis Karcher, Chris Proctor, Rod Gallagher, Teresa Kincannon, Denny Mishler, Catherine Kahbi, Rick Walker, and Peggy Walker.

Following that, the announcement was made that the November meeting will be at the Islamorada Fish Company restaurant at Bass Pro. Then, Tom's first official act as president was to thank Tony for his service last year.

At our board meeting on October 10, we managed to accomplish quite a lot. A summary:

We created a Program Director, who would be responsible for programs for our monthly meetings, including getting guest speakers. It was decided that it would be an appointed position, and the director could draft whomever he/she wanted to assist. Rick Walker was appointed.

The next item of business was the formation of a budget and finance and fundraising committee. All were in favor of that as well. This committee will consist of John Land, Peggy Walker, Chris Proctor, and Denny Mishler.

We also discussed the need for us to formalize our policies and procedures, methods of communication, and duties of officers, board, and appointed staff. Each person was instructed by Tom to type up a description of his or her job and email it to Tamara, who will compile them into one document to forward to Tom and the board.

The next action item was the issue of security and maintenance of our observatory. As far as keys to the building, Peggy will keep a list of all who hold keys, and for those who wish to get one the cost will be \$10 apiece. There was also a discussion of activity of some of the locals who have caused problems for us in the past. Brush and other stuff has been piled high in an area that they have been getting through to the AT&T building by, to further deter them, and new steps are in place to ensure the safety of both Frosty Towers' property and ours. Chris then mentioned that he plans for our grounds to look like a golf course within two years, and we may be leveling some of the sloping areas to create more room for us. Chris also mentioned brush seals for the dome to keep rain, bugs, weather, etc out of the dome.

The next item of business was programs for next year. We will be continuing the sidewalk astronomy, only it will be scaled down some. It will be one evening instead of two. It will be at Bass Pro in January through April, at River Walk from May through August, and September through November at Bass Pro.

We created another new appointed position, that of Sidewalk/Outreach/Public Relations coordinator, for which Owen Green was appointed. The SIG'S and the public star party presentations will continue. We also discussed scheduling of star parties and other events, and it was decided as follows: Full Moon-membership meetings and sidewalk events; 1st Quarter – Group events; Last Quarter-public star parties, and New Moon-members-only nights. On the subject of members-only nights, it was decided that these nights would be open to members only, and members can bring UP TO TWO guests, who will have to arrive either with or after their host/hostess, and leave either with or before their host/hostess and stay with the person who invited them.

Then, we held a vote to decide on reimbursing the Walkers for their expenses for IYA. Rick and Peg abstained from voting, everyone else was in favor. They will be reimbursed, per John Land's report that will be available soon. Other business included banking and scheduling for next year. At the meeting, those who signed up at our sidewalk events and won prizes came to our meeting place to claim their prizes. A young man named Gage, I believe he is 11 years old, who has been out to our observatory a couple of times won the telescope!

I apologize for the length here. We have accomplished too much lately for just a short one-page article! And this is what I hope we will continue to do!

Clear Skies, Tamara

Word Search – by Rick & Peg Walker

Notable Female Astronomers Part 1 Astronomy Club of Tulsa

Check this puzzle for who you may know...



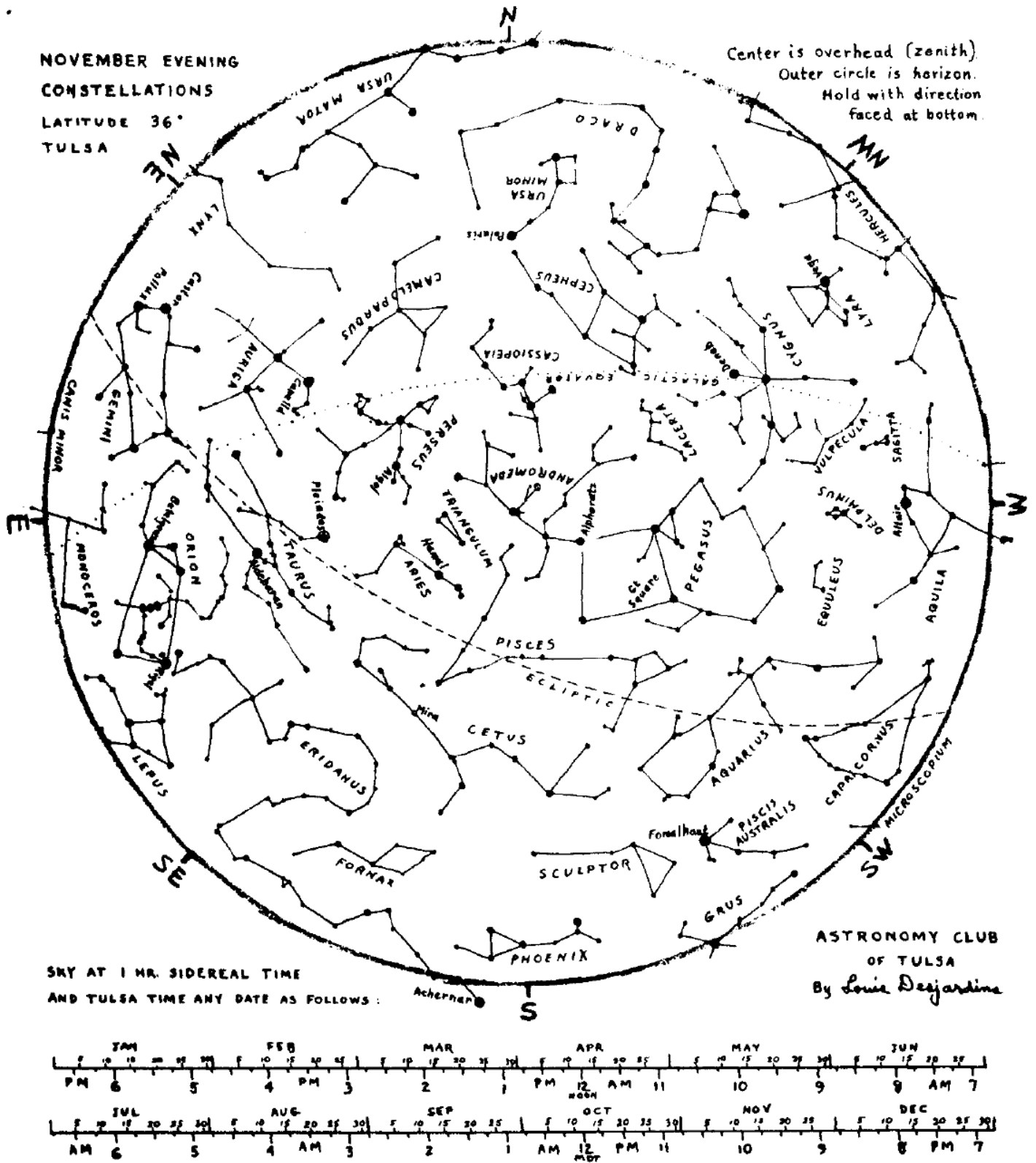
Jerry Jones
 Amy Mainzer
 Audrey Delsanti
 Anges Clerke
 Feryal Ozel
 Maria Mitchell
 Carolyn Porco
 Ruth Simmons
 Joan Horvath
 Henrietta Leavitt
 Margaret Turnbull
 Violeta Ivanova
 Anges Giberne
 Lenka Kotkova
 Ruby Scott
 Paula Szkody
 Leah Allen
 Ann Bruun
 Emma Vyssotsky
 Odette Bancilhon

Mary Proctor
 Lucy Escoffier
 Anlaug Djupvik
 Jocelyn Burnell
 Marie Lalande
 SOFIA ARAN
 Julie Hansen
 Jean Swank
 Andrea Chez
 Peggy Walker
 Sarah Ehiting
 Andreja Gomboc
 Dorrit Hoffleit
 Jennifer Bishop
 Helen Hogg
 Aneila Sargent
 Pelageya Shajin
 Barbara Bowles
 Caroline Herschel

Grace Cook
 Amanda Lawrence
 Sally Abel
 Janet Mattei
 Debra Fischer
 Jennifer Land
 Maria Kirch
 Mary Whitney
 Catharine Garmany
 Cora James
 Erika Bohm Vitense
 Catherine Cesarsky
 Dorthea Klumpke
 KC Lobrecht
 Aphra Behn
 Marcia Boston
 Annie Mauder
 Denise Leonard
 Margaret Huggins

Jeanne Dumeet
 Sara Seager
 Enheduanna
 Claire Max
 Amy Barger
 Carolyn Shoemaker
 Jane Johansson
 Gabrielle Renaudot
 Williamina Fleming
 Aglaonike
 Robin Canup
 Jennifer Wiseman
 Beatrice Tinsley
 Julia Riley
 Tamara Simirnova
 Judy Lieser
 Sallie Baliunas
 Lyudmila Chernykh
 Lyudmila Zhuravlyova

(Answers in next month’s newsletter)



Full Moon..... November 2nd
 Last Quarter..... November 9th
 New Moon..... November 16th
 First Quarter..... November 24th

November 5th – Mercury Superior Conjunction
 November 17th – Leonid Meteor Shower peaks
 Evening – Jupiter
 Morning – Venus, Saturn & Mars

Predicted MAXIMA of long period variables - November 2009
 North of -55° Declination ~ Tulsa, OK Viewing Limit
 (Predicted Maxima > 8.0 - Easy Binocular Range)

Designation	Name	Code	Range	Est Max Date
0214-03	Omi Cet		<3.4-9.3>	Nov 19
1324-22	R Hya		<4.5-9.5>	Nov 4
*1343-27	W Hya		5.7-10.0	Nov 25?
1621+19	U Her		<7.5-12.5>	Nov 27
*1657+22	SY Her		7.8-13.2	Nov 17?
1811+36	W Lyr		<7.9-12.2>	Nov 6
1833+08	X Oph		<6.8-8.8>	Nov 30
1949-29	RR Sqr	&	<6.8-13.2>	Nov 20

Codes:
 # - needs more observations
 & - needs more observations urgently
 @ - needs more observations very urgently
 % - has good CCDV or multicolor photometry, but more visual observations are needed (usually more visual observations are needed very urgently)

Source: AAVSO Bulletin 71

From your RMCC Facilities Manager

First off- I want to thank everyone that took part in our last workday in my absence. Thanks to your valiant efforts we can all rest easier this winter when the ice comes along and not have to worry as much about the road being blocked by downed trees.

The willow that was at the SE corner of the observatory while pretty was blocking many peoples view of Omega Centari (not to mention threatening the sewer line). Well...no longer. We'll still have much more to do in the spring but what has been done thus far should carry our viewing through the winter months.

If you missed out on the last workday never fear- our next one is scheduled for Saturday, November 14th at 10am. Emphasis will be on winterization and cleanout. The two big projects that I'll need help with (read: someone with tools) are the replacement of several stair treads and installing a handrail on the back outside steps.

Mowing - as some of you have noticed, I have not been mowing nearly as frequently the last few months. This is not out of laziness but by design. I'm trying to allow as much of the field to overgrow as possible. This will let the root system strengthen and hopefully undo some of the damage done by our local deer and armadillo families.

I have some fairly ambitious plans for the facility for next year but they are going to require some money. If your employer does any sort of reimbursement for volunteering (donations based on the amount of time an employee donates to a non-profit) please consider the club as a beneficiary of these programs.

Lastly- with winter approaching, please remember to a) turn the water off and b) turn the space heater in the bathroom on when you leave the observatory for the night.

Chris Proctor

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

The agenda has been set for A.C.T.'s traditional year-end dinner meeting for November 6th. The menu has been sent out and will help expedite the evening if you come prepared with your meals decided upon. The selections are:

Grilled Mahi Mahi - \$12.95 served with long grain and wild rice and seasoned vegetables;

Rotisserie Broiled Chicken - \$9.95 A half chicken, infused with lemon and rosemary slow-roasted in our custom hickory-fired rotisserie, served with long grain and wild rice and seasoned vegetables;

Top Sirloin - \$13.95 An 8-oz USDA choice top sirloin, cooked medium in temperature, served with white cheddar mashed potatoes and seasoned vegetables;

Grilled Tilapia - \$10.95 Served with long grain and wild rice and seasoned vegetables.

We are meeting at the room at Islamorada Restaurant at Bass Pro which will accommodate 70 to 80 people so we should have plenty room for all those desiring to attend.

The night will be a great end for a great year. The plans are to have all the photos from A.C.T.'s IYA events on a slideshow for the whole evening for folks to enjoy and reminisce throughout the night. President, Tom McDonough will officiate his first meeting and will speak on his vision/plans for 2010. Also, as in A.C.T.'s tradition, Tom will recognize our veteran members as well as our new members. For that brave soul, there will be a gift for the member who has the privilege of being on the planet the longest. Once that is done, certificates of appreciation will be given out on behalf of Peggy Walker as International Year of Astronomy Coordinator and Rick Walker for Sidewalk Astronomy Coordinator for all the support of the International Year of Astronomy activities.

It has been a fun and dynamic year of change and growth in many areas and the Astronomy Club of Tulsa. A.C.T. has great momentum to continue its efforts to bring astronomy to the North East Oklahoma area in 2010. A.C.T. members you deserve a standing ovation for all your hard work and dedication. Thank you many times over, for all your support and words of encouragement to us this past year. - Peg Walker

US STAR PARTIES Astronomy Club of Tulsa



Answers for October 2009 Word Search

Astronomy Wall Calendars

The 2010 Astronomy Wall Calendars should be here by Friday. Many of you purchase these as Christmas presents for friends.

You may purchase them for \$ 8.00 each (a \$ 4.95 savings over the cover price). Calendars available on first come basis. Contact John Land to reserve your calendar.

NOTE: Please bring Exact change in cash or pay by check.

Please avoid bringing \$20 bills that need lots of change back.

Canadian Observers Handbooks

2010 Canadian Observers Handbooks - \$ 21 each. Please prepay by Nov 6 meeting. Several of you enjoy ordering this publication each year.

Reserve yours by emailing or calling John Land.

I.Y.A TELESCOPE WINNER!



I'm sure by now you all have heard or met Gage West down at the observatory. His mentor, John Land, has brought him there often. Gage has been excited about astronomy for quite a while and has been in his backyard every chance he gets. At least that's what his mom tells me.

When we had our 100 Hours of Astronomy, Gage came and filled out a drawing ticket, which already was his second or third one. He told me that he was praying for this telescope. Gage came to a few more events and to the observatory in the summer. But when we had our October meeting at Bass Pro, no one in the membership drew his name. UGH.....

So Rick and I contacted the winner with phone messages all week to come get the prize at IHOP on Saturday, October 10th. Our five-hour board meeting came and went and the telescope came back home with us. On Sunday night I mixed up the huge bin of

1200 or so tickets, shoved my hand down to the bottom and grabbed 6 – 7 tickets. I was not comfortable with seeing names and ages that were facing me because I DID NOT want any possible way to influence which tickets to drop back in the bin. The one ticket toward the back was the only one not facing me, so I kept that one fully confident it was not influenced in any way. I turned it over and yelled to Rick, "God is so Awesome, Gage won the telescope!" Rick and I teary-eyed called the number to start the ball rolling to get the scope to its rightful owner. We got directions from his mom and take off to deliver it. We pull up a house away, and Gage is out the door on the lawn before we even stopped the car!

Rick takes the box from the trunk and snaps this picture. His mom comes out not too sure what was going on because Gage didn't get a chance to tell her since she was making dinner. I handed her a membership form and she said she would make sure it was filled out for Gage. After the picture Rick offers to take the box in the house, but of course Gage says No and he can handle it. He picks it up, its bigger than him, and maneuvers his way into the house. He yells thank you from the front door and disappears. Like the commercial says, Priceless!



"Sun Day" on Saturday at Woolaroc - Recap



September 26th was A.C.T.'s "Sun" day on Saturday at Woolaroc in Bartlesville. The gates were to be opened early for us but an employee was running late. What was so inspiring was the fact a few members had beaten us up there. Tamara, Owen, Tom, Tim were out talking and Donita was still in her truck when we pulled up behind her. Our caravan buddies Mike and Dennis Karcher

get out of the truck and here comes Ann and two seconds later, John Land. Tom was in full awe of how the day was going to be spectacular for what we were going to do for the day. He was pumped.



The employee let us in and Tamara and Owen led the way, or should I say TRIED to lead the way. The welcoming party was roaming freely, in no hurry and posed for several photo ops. They kindly left us a trail of bison pies with one in particular just missing Tamara's front grill. Tamara kept foraging ahead and after about 15 minutes, the stop 'n' go quit and the bison finally got the message and cleared the road. We finally entered the area and parked in front of the museum walkway and I got out to find our tables that Woolaroc provided, nicely in place. After revamping a couple of the tables, the vehicles started to get unloaded.



Donita Gray and John Land had the exhibit at the museum that talked about the solar system, the planets, their size and weight. Right across from them was Ann Bruun and Joyce from BAS and their station about how planets around stars are discovered. To the right from Ann and Joyce, were Allen Martin and Taylor Forrest manning the giveaway/information table. This was where people were to end up after going through the four tables. A.C.T. also had information to help get some of the locals plugged into the Bartlesville Astronomical Society.

Down the road from there at the Lodge, Tamara and I were ready to demonstrate how matter of different weights and mass, goes down the black hole. To our right were Mike and Dennis Karcher with Owen Green with the Inside the Telescope Exhibit. They showed how images are reflected on the inside of the telescope.



At each table we had solar scopes available to view the sun. Through the course of the day, Paul Mullin, Donita Gray, John Land, Tim Davis, Steve Chapman, Ann Bruun and Tom McDonough showed us and the visitors, sun spots, solar flares and solar prominences. Unfortunately, those of us at the lower end of the park didn't see much action. At one point a very large two tiered chartered buss arrived and we were hopeful but they had other plans.

The upper exhibits had more activity and Rick and I felt great disappointment for the lack of turn out and hoped A.C.T. members didn't feel like they had wasted their time. That was dispelled by the members commenting on how much fun they were having just hanging out with each other, relaxing on a beautiful day in great surroundings.



At 3:30 pm, I suited up with the help of Taylor and got ready for the Black Hole presentation at the Events Center. There were a few guests, and A.C.T./B.A.S. members (thanks guys) to view the presentation. The guests leave and we gear up for the catered B-B-Q dinner. Woolaroc employees and all the astronomers sat and ate together. We needed to vacate right after eating to make room for The Friends of Woolaroc.

Taylor placed the packets the members assembled for the event at each place setting. We all left to start to set up for the night. At 6:30 pm, I suit up again (didn't want to get B-B-Q sauce on my uniform) and prepare for the evenings event.

see a lot of action or so we thought until... Steve "More Power" Chapman put our pentax and his pentax eye-pieces in the binoculars to much, more elation. Now Taylor and Allen were glued to the view.



I received a gracious introduction and I introduced myself and talked about A.C.T.'s history and the information in their packet. The guests were taking out the information and actively reading the various articles inside. I presented the black hole power point and we then adjourned to the grass area out in the parking area.

The Friends of Woolaroc seemed to enjoy themselves based on their questions and interactions with the members. Several had mentioned they owned telescopes and lived in Bartlesville so I walked them over to introduce them to John and Arden from B.A.S. Most of the guests started to leave around 9:30 pm thanking us for coming. A.C.T. breathed a sigh of relief at finishing our last major event for IYA.



By now the bulk of the membership was ready to start the evening's viewing even though it wasn't dark yet. Rick set up the clubs binoculars and I asked Taylor and Allen to operate those. We could see Taylor overly excited about her great view of the moon. That got contagious and those bins did

Observing Pages

Information Exchange

The Astronomy Club of Tulsa maintains a Yahoo Group for the club. For those of you unfamiliar with Yahoo groups, it is a forum that allows for messages, photos and files that can be shared among the group's members. As stated in the group's description, "This group is for the members of the Astronomy Club of Tulsa to ask questions, share ideas, get information, plan observing sessions, or just communicate in general. Informal club business communications may also be announced here." This group can be found on the web at <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/AstroTulsa/>. It is open to all club members, so be sure to check it out! Tom McDonough, our Club President, and Anne Bruun, our Vice-President and Observing Chairperson, are the group's moderators.

November 2009 Observing List							
			Star Clusters		Nebula		
	Double Star	Galaxy	Globular	Open	Bright	Planetary	Dark
1		eso 351-g30	NGC288	M52	NGC7635		
2		M31		NGC129			
3		M32		NGC133			
4		M74		NGC146			
5		M110		NGC225			
6		NGC55		NGC436			
7		NGC128		NGC457			
8		NGC134		NGC7789			
9		NGC147					
10		NGC185					
11		NGC253					
12		NGC300					
13		NGC470					
14		NGC474					
15		NGC524					
16		NGC7534					
17		NGC7541					
18		NGC7619					
19		NGC7626					

Details of this list are located in the folder, "ACT Observing Lists" in the AstroTulsa Yahoo group's files section. This list contains too many objects to "observe" in one evening, but we will recognize anyone who observes 20 or more of these objects. The reason there are many objects is to give the observer a variety of objects that can also be used for completion of an Astronomical League (AL) Observing Club. For more information on the Astronomical League and the observing clubs, check them out at <http://www.astroleague.org/observing.html>.

Most of the objects cross the meridian between 8 PM and midnight. For this month, we are continuing with a new list of objects. These objects are based on the book, "Deep-Sky Wonders" by Walter Scott Houston. For those who may not know, Walter Scott Houston had the monthly column "Deep-Sky Wonders" in Sky and Telescope. This book is adapted from his many years of information contained within that column. It is a great book and I highly recommend it for those who want to find out more information about these objects, how to find them and especially how to observe them. Sue French authors the present column in Sky & Telescope. For more information about this book, check out the review in the October Newsletter on page 7.

For the month of November, the Milky Way is sinking to the west and becoming less prominent in the overhead sky. Because of this, the dust of the Milky Way does not obscure the skies as much and you can now start seeing some of the Fall galaxies. Many such galaxies dominate this month's list. Also you can start to see some of the more distant local objects that do not lie within the Milky Way disk such as Globular Clusters

One of the brighter, beautiful galaxies is NGC 253, the Sculptor Galaxy. Be sure and put this one on your must see list! I took a B&W image of this galaxy at last year's Okie-Tex Star Party.



Please take a look and give feedback to either Ann Bruun or Rod Gallagher. Also, please provide a copy of your observing logs to Ann Bruun.

Rod Gallagher



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ASTRONOMY CLUB STAR PUBLIC PARTY

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20TH - ALTERNATE DATE WILL BE SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21ST IF SKY IS CLOUDY ON FRIDAY.

GATES OPEN AT ~5:00 PM / SUNSET 5:13 P.M. / END CIVIL TWILIGHT - 5:40 P.M.

NEW MOON ON 16 NOVEMBER 2009 AT 1:14 P.M. CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

Due to the uncertain weather reports, always check your local weather reports for sky conditions. Our club has excellent resources for predictions of cloud cover on the observe section of our website <http://www.astrotulsa.com/Observe/observe.asp>, or check the AstroTulsa Yahoo Page <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/AstroTulsa/> for cancellations if weather is uncertain! Since night-time temperatures can dip to the mid 30's or colder you should plan to bring a jacket or heavier coat. **Note – The wind chill on the observatory hill can be brutally cold!!**

- Beginners Telescope Set Up on Center Pad: Several of our new members and guests have new telescopes they are trying to learn how to use. We would like to invite you to set up your equipment near the center concrete observing pad. Members let's all take time to meet these novice astronomers and help them get a good start with their equipment.
- Wireless Internet now available at the Observatory: For laptop users - Rod Gallagher has made arrangements for wireless Internet to be broadcast on the observing field. Details for log on are available at the observatory. This is available for members to use for astronomy, observing and weather information and should not be abused for other types of browsing and gaming.
- Things to bring to a star party: Of course a telescope or binoculars are great for observing but you don't have to have one to enjoy the evening. You don't have to own a telescope to enjoy an observing night. Our members are eager to share their views with others. There will be plenty of people willing to share the view if you just ask. Also bring a red colored or covered flashlight to see your way around. We have plenty of folding chairs and a clean restroom.
- Children are always welcome but must be supervised and must stay on observatory grounds. It's always wise to have an alternate activity such as a favorite book or tapes for younger children who may tire early. Closed toed shoes are preferred and a light jacket as needed.
- We would like to encourage our new members and guests to join us
- Plan to arrive before dark. We have plenty of chairs and a classroom area.
- We have a microwave and you can bring your own snacks. You need to bring your own drinking water!

PARKING MAY BE AT A PREMIUM. Reserve Parking is available next door in old ATT lot for those without equipment or planning to leave early. PLEASE DO NOT PARK VEHICLES near the center-observing pad blocking the view and traffic access.

SAFETY ISSUE: When large groups are present it is better to turn on your park lights or headlights on low beam rather than to try driving in or out without lights... especially if those groups include children. Just warn everyone when you are getting ready to leave.

NEVER try driving down the hill without lights.

A donation of \$2.00 per guest would be appreciated to help us maintain the observatory.



Moon-Venus-Saturn

Credit – John Land

November 2009

CLUB OFFICERS

POSITION	NAME	PHONE
President	Tom McDonough	918-665-1853
Vice-President	Ann Bruun	918-834-0757
Treasurer	John Land	918-357-1759
Secretary	Tamara Green	918-851-1213

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

NAME	PHONE
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Rod Gallagher	918-369-3827
Catherine Kahbi	918-409-1867
Dennis Karcher	918-619-7097
Teresa Kincannon	918-637-1477
Denny Mishler	918-274-4772
Chris Proctor	918-810-6210
Peggy Walker	918-640-0832
Rick Walker	918-451-9235

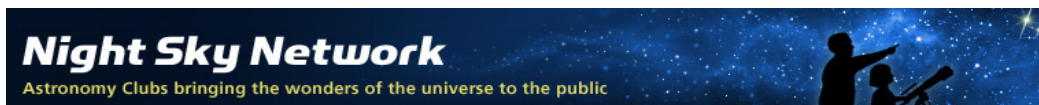
APPOINTED STAFF

POSITION	NAME	PHONE
RMCC Facility Manager	Chris Proctor	918-810-6210
Membership Chairman	John Land	918-357-1759
Observing Chairman	Ann Bruun	918-834-0757
New Members	Owen Green Rick Walker	918-851-1213 918-451-9235
Observatory Director	Teresa Kincannon	918-637-1477
Webmaster	Tom McDonough	918-665-1853
Newsletter Editor	Dennis Karcher	918-619-7097
Night Sky Network	Peggy Walker	918-640-0832
Program Director	Rick Walker	918-451-9235

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Astronomy Club of Tulsa membership (\$35/year) includes membership in the Astronomical League and subscription to ACT's "Observer" and AL's "Reflector". "Astronomy" (\$34/year) and "Sky and Telescope" (\$33/year) are also available through the club. For more information contact John Land at 918-357-1759. Permission is hereby granted to reprint from this publication provided credit is given to the original author and the Astronomy Club of Tulsa Observer is identified as the source.

The Astronomy Club of Tulsa is a proud member of the Astronomical League and the Night Sky Network



<http://www.astroleague.org>

<http://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov>

**ACT welcomes your questions, suggestions, comments and submissions for publication.
Please send all inquiries to djkarcher@cox.net**