



THE OBSERVER



The Astronomy Club of Tulsa's Newsletter Published Since 1937

Messier Marathon 2011 ● Land Tidbits ● Events Schedule ● As The Dome Turns ●
Getting Started in Astronomy ● Globe At Night ● Feb Board Meeting Minutes

**OLD SCOPES TAKE
CENTER STAGE AT
BASS PRO**



www.astrotulsa.com

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MARCH 2011



ABOUT THE COVER



This month's cover represents a new look for The Observer. Over the years and through many editors it has taken many shapes, some more successful than others. Even though the new look has more eye appeal it is the content that

will reflect the biggest difference.

This brings me to my point. Every member of ACT should consider The Observer as their newsletter and know that the rest of us are very interested in your adventures in astronomy. So next time you and your observing friends get together for a night of viewing, drop us a line. Tell us how the seeing was and what objects you looked at.

One thing everyone likes to read about is how did your scope perform and what do you have planned to overcome an obstacle with it? How did it do compared to a friend's who had a vastly different focal length?

Eyepieces and cameras are other huge topics. One of the biggest things we gain from being a group is, we get to share each other's successes and failures. It really helps each of us in deciding the best products for ourselves. BUT, you have to share it for others to know and you benefit from theirs.

Submitting an article to the Observer is as easy as writing an email. You can send it to me in almost any format you like. Don't worry about headers or layout and by all means send pictures to include with your article. My email address is:

jerrym@pantherenergy.us

Featured

3 [Getting Started in Astronomy](#) — by: Ann Brunn
This Month Ann offers her expertise to beginners with her article "What To Look For"

8 [As The Dome Turns](#) — by: Jerry Mullennix
This month As the Dome Turns takes on an adventure into the past with tales hand figured mirrors and a time when there were not 5 working SCT's in the world. Read about Celestron's Blue and White telescope days.



13 [TUVA 2011](#)— *See a photo journal of this year's Messier Marathon submitted by some of the lucky ones to attend. If you missed it catch Ron Woods Friday at the meeting.*



RECENT NEW MEMBERS

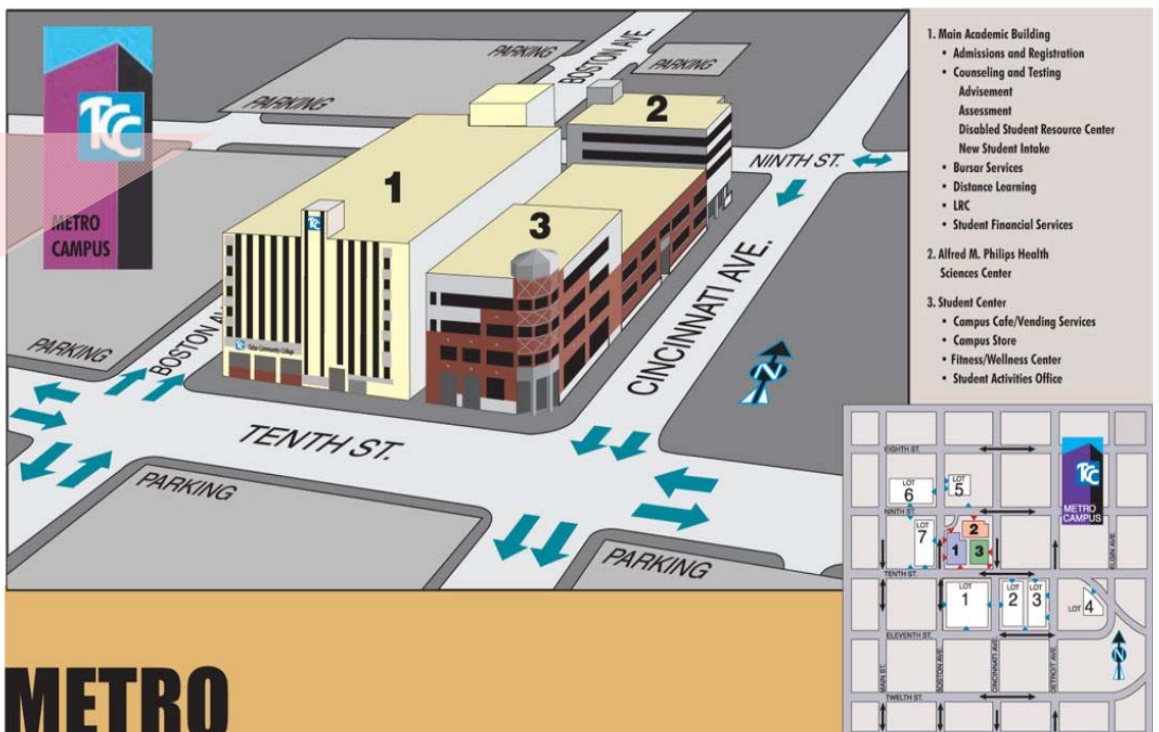
1. Bryan (Skip) Whitehurst
2. Kevin Pargeter

EVENTS

EVENT	PROGRAM	WHERE	DATE	TIME
March Meeting	Messier Marathon Award Night Presenter Ron Woods	TCC Metro Campus	3-18-2011	7:00 PM
Sidewalk Astronomy	Public Observing	Bass Pro	3-19-2011	7:30 PM
March Star Party	Monthly Star Party	ACT Observatory	3-25-2011	7:00 PM
Members Only Star Party	Members Night	ACT Observatory	4-01-2011	7:00 PM
April Meeting	To Be Announced	TCC Metro Campus	4-15-2011	7:00 PM
Sidewalk Astronomy	Public Observing	Bass Pro	4-19-2011	8:00 PM

TCC Metro Campus -
Philips Auditorium
Located in Building 2 at
the corner of 9th and
Cincinnati. Park in Lot 5
to the north on Boston
Ave.

Honk if your
from Drako.



Presidents Corner

Message From The President

(UN-EDITED)

Greetings once again fellow astronomers

This month we had an awesome Messier Marathon at TUVVA Observatory in Checotah on the 5th-6th we had several members attend with wonderful as usual food. It was cold we had to scrape frost off of windows around 7am and heat up cars before we left.

We also had a very good night at Bass pro for Sidewalk it started out not so clear then ended with it being clear enough to make out M42 from the parking lot naked eye. Had about 40 or so stop by. I would like to thank all of those who showed up we had a lot of us there eight to be exact. We had another at Bass Pro on the 19th would love to see you there.

Owen Green, President




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GETTING STARTED IN ASTRONOMY WHAT TO LOOK AT

BY ANN BRUUN

Two of my favorites that show all the Messier objects are “Bright Star Atlas” by Wil Tiron and Brian Skiff and “Pocket Sky Atlas” published by Sky and Telescope.

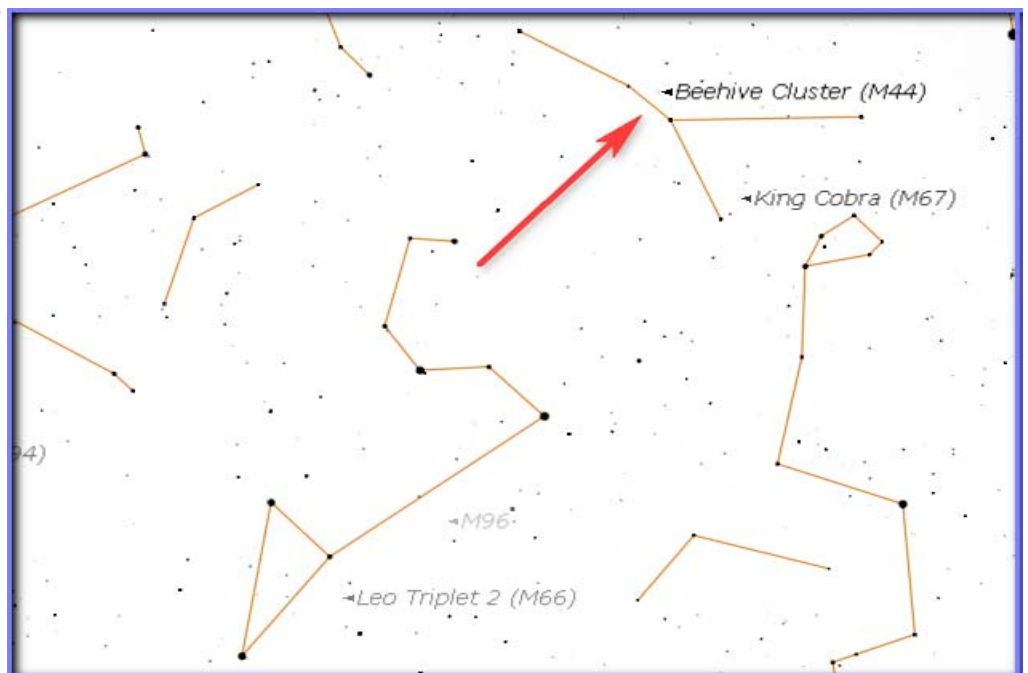
The first object most people look at when they are getting started in astronomy is of course the moon. The moon is fascinating and with its ever-changing shadows new features continually make themselves apparent. Once you have had a good look at the moon with the binoculars or telescope you have invested in you might start to wonder what other sites await you. It can be difficult to figure out what objects to look for but luckily there is a ready-made list of 110 of the finest objects available in our skies. This is called the Messier list and is named after Charles Messier (Mess-ee-ay) who liked to hunt

comets. His list is made up of celestial objects he thought might be mistaken for comets. These include open clusters, globular clusters galaxies and nebulae. In order to find these objects you will need star charts. Two of my favorites that show all the Messier objects are “Bright Star Atlas” by Wil Tiron and Brian Skiff and “Pocket Sky Atlas” published by Sky and Telescope. If you have a computer, there is a free planetarium program

called Stellarium that can be downloaded at www.stellarium.org/

Below are a few of the Messiers that can be viewed from the city at this time of year:

[M44](#) (Beehive Cluster) – An Open Cluster in the center of the constellation Cancer. The stars of Cancer will not show up very well in the city but if you follow the gaze of Leo he is looking straight at the Beehive Cluster.



[M42](#) (The Orion Nebula) – A bright beautiful nebula on the sword below Orion’s belt.

[M41](#) – Open cluster in Canis Major. This is the heart of the Dog. A hazy patch of fine stars.

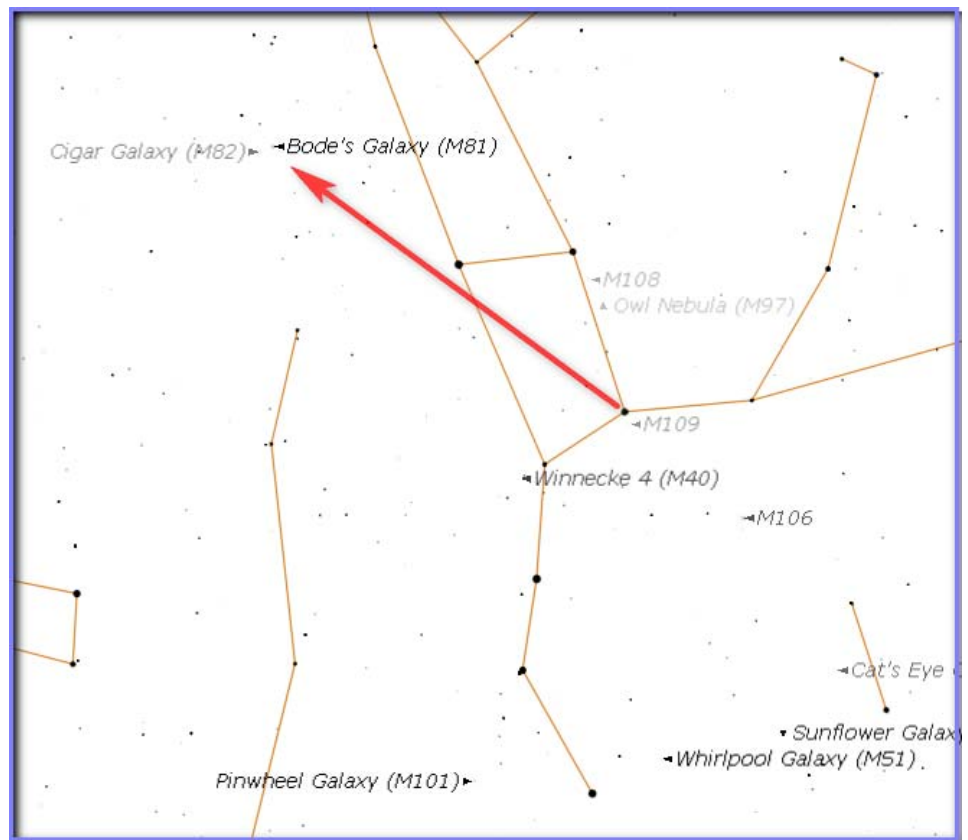
[M45](#) (The Pleiades, also called The Seven Sisters) – This one is often visible naked-eye in the city. Best viewed with binoculars for a wide field of view.

If you can get away from the city lights here are some additional objects to look for:

[M31](#) (The Andromeda Galaxy) – This large bright galaxy is starting to get low in the western sky but it is still worth a look. It is the brightest galaxy in our sky.

[M37](#), [M36](#), & [M38](#) – Three open clusters in Auriga each with a distinct look.

[M81](#) & [M82](#) – Two very different looking galaxies in Ursa Major. They can be seen in a single field of view if the angle is wide.



Carl Sagan's Cosmos Series on the Web

Submitted by: John Land

For those of you over 50 or so, you may remember the Carl Sagan 13 part series of astronomy programs called "*Cosmos*". At the time of production, its special effects won awards for their innovative techniques. Some of the ideas he presented such as Black Holes, Worm Holes, Solar Sails have been the topics of both science fiction and science fact. Even controversial political hot topics such as global warming and nuclear winter were first presented in the series. Like me, you may not agree with Sagan on all his ideas, some have proven scientifically credible while others were more his philosophical musings on the origins of things. A whole generation of youth and young adults may have begun their interest in astronomy watching this series. So if you can get past the 80's attire and Sagan's odd narrative style and accent you might enjoy a trip down memory lane.

You'll find the whole series online for FREE.

Well, almost free, you do have to watch a few introductory commercials and an odd dialogue about the evils of the Cold War. You can slide the viewing cursor forward and skip some of the promo parts. And you don't have to download the video viewing software promoted by some of the ads.

Find all 13 episodes of Cosmos at:

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0081846/episodes>



THE FUNNY SIDE

You Might Not Be an Astronomer if You Think

Andy Blackburn

AURORA BOREALIS

is an exotic dancer in Nome, Alaska

AN ASTRONOMICAL UNIT

refers to the cost of an Air Force toilet.

BETELGEUSE

is the stuff you squeegee off the windshield of your car.

CLOCK DRIVE

refers to the street beneath Big Ben.

A GASEOUS PROMINENCE

is a politician.

LIGHT POLLUTION

is a few beer cans in the yard.

AN UMBRA

is something you need during a rain shower.

PLUTO

is Mickey's sidekick.

NORTHERN LIGHTS

is a brand of a mentholated, low nicotine cigarette.

PERIHELION

is a guy who sang "That's Amore" in the 1950s.

SOLAR CORONA

is warm Mexican beer.

AN OFF AXIS GUIDER

is a persistent backseat driver.

A MAKSUTOV

is a wine bottle filled with gasoline and thrown at tanks.

A STAR PARTY

is a Hollywood bash.

SCHMIDT-CASSEGRAIN

is a German meal made with rice.

REFRACTOR

is when Vito breaks your leg for the second time.

ZODIACAL LIGHT

is a low alcohol beer.

A STAR CHART

predicts the future.

A PENUMBRA

is something you need during a rain shower or when you need to write a note.

THE PHOTOSPHERE

is a snapshot of a beachball.

A GRAVITATIONAL LENS

is a camera lens that floats

A NEUTRON

is a fig cookie.

Jiggles contemplates a snatch and run.



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www.GarrettOptical.com
www.AstronomyBinoculars.com
for more information!

AS THE DOME TURNS

CELESTRONS WHITE AND BLUE TELESCOPES

BY JERRY MULLENNIX

Back in the 1960's Alan Hale went to work for Tom Johnson at Valor Electronics and started a demand for what is arguably the most popular telescope in the world today, the SCT and there were not five working scopes of this type in the world.

Ok, by now many of my close friends have discovered I have acquired an old Blue and White Celestron 8" SCT. What's so special about an old telescope anyway? Don't they use far more exacting techniques today in the manufacture of scopes? Aren't they just cool antiques that won't hold a candle to what we get now? All of these are solid questions and the answer is going to depend on who you talk too and their opinion on the subject. For me nothing tells the story like the optics.

No question in the last 50 years of telescope making we have learned and applied much to what existed in the past. I myself have every cool GPS gadget you tie to a telescope for the evenings I want to go high tec. I have a Celestron mount that will polar align itself using any star in the sky then go to any one of 40,000 objects in the database with it landing dead center and staying there. But none of this is how I started in astronomy.

As a boy 10 or 11 I started reading Sky and Telescope about 1967, mostly the ads because I

wanted a telescope really bad. Besides, most of the articles were way over my head at the time though I was taking a serious interest in the science. I had my heart set on a 6" F-8 Criterion Dynascope for the low price of \$194.99. I would look at the ad and think "with that I could see anything." My parents were not so keen on \$194 (a lot of money in 1967 for a 12 year old who had already had 2 bikes stolen) and I ended up with 60mm Sears and Robuck refractor on Christmas Eve 1968.



Image 1— My Celestron 8" Blue/White poses next to the classic Celestron orange tube 8"

I didn't read the directions just ran out and set it up and pointed it to the sky. The finder was looking off in the woods somewhere and puzzled me as to its real value to space exploration or even its necessity to a telescope. Looking straight up was a real bright object and after more than an hour of struggling with the most powerful eyepiece that came with the scope I finally got it in the eyepiece it was a way over powered Saturn.

I quickly ran in to get anyone who would come look to hurry and see what I had found. Well, by the time they got their coats on and came out to the scope it was long gone from the eyepiece. Lesson one, the world is turning. Hard as I tried I could not get it back in the eyepiece and as quick as I tricked them into coming out they went away. So then I went for the moon, this was a special evening because for the first time in history an American Space-ship (Apollo 8) was circling the moon with humans so I thought I could catch a glimpse of the rocket ship in my new telescope. Well needless to say it was for the most part a very frustrating night out.

I was far from giving up on scopes, surely all of those astronomers in Sky and Tel were not suffering indignation like this -- so I read the manual. The scope served as the only one I would own for the next 15 years or so and I got so good with it I could find many things you should never look at with a 60mm scope. A few years ago I did finally acquire an old

beat up Dynascope that I have completely refinished thanks to Tom McDonough and his detailed records of his refinish job. Since the 60mm I have owned more scopes than I can remember and still have 20 or so. Somewhere along the line I quit selling or trading them and now they are everywhere around here with numerous mounts and other equipment to stump a toe on. All have in my opinion unique capabilities that allow me to pick a scope just for a specific type of viewing or photography I am trying to achieve.

The last scope I sold was a Meade ETX. The thing never performed as advertised and brought back frustration levels I have not had with astronomy in a long time. For the record my experience with Meade has been optically a very good company but mechanically and quality control lacking in many areas. I have seen exceptions to this, mainly the 7" Mak (no longer made) and the Lightbridge. Both are scopes that I could see myself owning. The reason I mention this is because the rest of this article is about Celestron and it may seem like an ad for Celestron but the truth is, it is the scope I have the most experience with and also the one I have the most of. I do own one Meade, (never to be mentioned in print again) a very nice AR5 with no astigmatism or false color. Simply exquisite optics and I have never looked at another quit like it. However, I use Celestron mounts or Orion's EQ-3 to move it around the sky on the rare times I

bring it out.

I have also looked through many other brands that were fabulous and some out of my reach or at least the reach of what sanity should allow for me. Nothing against my astronomy friends but when I acid test this with my non-astronomy friends or my family members the results come back I crossed the sanity line on this long ago on this stuff. I learned that there is no final dollar amount or aperture amount to satisfy for more than a little while before you want bigger or more expensive. This and the waiting period has for now kept me from buying on many occasions.

Of all of the scopes I have owned or will ever own I recently acquired a very special scope, the Celestron-Pacific 8" Blue White. As a longtime fan of Celestron I did not even know they made these scopes until a few years ago. Under real crappy skies Steve Chapman boot-ed up his computer and showed me a digital book by Bob Piekieł titled "Celestron, The Early Years" 1800 pages of the company that arguably brought about the biggest telescope revolution in 50 years by introducing a workable SC telescope.

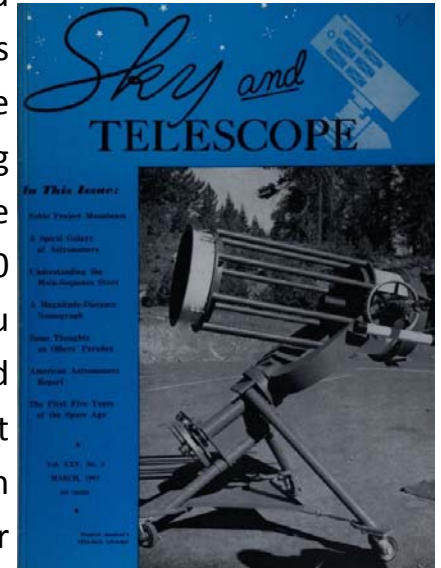
Bob discusses in great detail the struggles Tom Johnson and Allen Hale had putting together the company. As it turns out there were only 4 or 5 working examples of the SCT when Tom build his first, an 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ " primary which was featured in Sky and Telescope in

March of 1963. His story was not only told in great detail in the article but the scope was the cover that month.

I am going to make a long story short here but I strongly recommend you read this book as the stories and the interviews will bring much of telescope history in the last 50 years into a light you will not expect and many surprises not only about Celestron but Meade and other scope manufactures.

For a guy that really enjoys equipment as much as I do it was riveting. I do caution that reading the book could trigger a serious desire to own a Blue/White yourself. Should this happen and your search proves fruitless you are always welcome to share the views through mine anytime its out.

How did I get mine? Cruising through Astromart one night I spotted an ad by Bob Piekieł for the book Steve had showed me that night plus 3 other books Bob had written with about anything a guy would want to know or ever need to know to work with collimate or repair an SCT. I brought a copy of each. After reading his book on collimation, I can assure you as much as you think you know about collimation Bob will teach you at least ten things you did not know. He goes in-



to great detail for overcoming problem issues with scopes that just refuse to hold good collimation. At the end of this article I will give you all of Bobs contact info and the titles to his books if you would like to have a copy for yourself.

After reading the entire big book my mission was to acquire a Blue/White of my own. Over the next year I only saw one Blue/White for sell on Astormart and it was a 10" that had a unworkable focuser. The other thing that scared me off of this one was the picture was taken with the scope turned face down on the street and I feared it had not been well taken care of and I passed over this one.

Just after Thanksgiving last year I spotted an ad on Astormart for two blue and white scopes one 6' and one 8" both in serious need of refurbishing. The 8" looked like it had the best chance of making it back to the star field as a useable scope so I picked it and went to respond to the ad when I noticed that it was Bob Piekial selling the scopes. I responded and negotiated a very fair price for the scope and signed off knowing it would probably take me a year to find the missing parts and corrector plate to refurb the scope but at least I had my own Celestron Blue/White.

After a night of sleep a brainstorm came into view. "My best chance to get this scope back to its original state was to try and see if I could convince Bob to do the job." I called him the next morning and was prepared to offer about

anything I could think of to sway him. I had dancing girls ring his doorbell and start singing at the precise moment I called. Ok that parts not true but I was prepared.

Surprisingly, Bob was about as nice and open to the idea as I could have ever dreamed. He only asked that I give him plenty of time as he could only work on it when he had available time. I was thrilled knowing I had the one person who arguably knew more about these scopes than any other person on the planet committed to doing the work for me.

The thing I did not expect was through our many emails and phone conversations I acquired a really good friend in Bob and like many of you guys someone who shares some of my very own passions. Sadly Bob does not make it out west much because I did invite him to come talk to our club or if not that to come enjoy our skies with an evening of viewing with us.

Anyway, Bob was great sending me detailed pictures of the restoration as it progressed and the complications he faced as he found the corrector and had to hand figure it to match the primary and so forth. I was really shocked when he had it ready to go in February and like any astronomer who gets to excited about a new scope weather moves in. Tulsa had the biggest snow storm in its history and no deliveries.

Well it did show up on the front porch and made its Tulsa debut at the public sidewalk

event we do at Bass Pro on a cold February night. The few of us that made it out that night got a very special treat as this nearly 50 year old telescope drew nothing but awes, as it knocked down the chosen celestial objects in the eyepiece in great detail.

For those that did not get a chance to see it I plan to bring it out on public nights at the observatory a few times this spring and summer. If you look down the field and see a Blue and White telescope just know you are always welcome to come enjoy the views and hear more about its history and the story of its trip back to the stars. For anyone interested in one or all of Bob Piekieł's books here is how you can acquire your own copy.

Celestron The Early Years (1800-page CD ROM) \$39.95 shipped
Testing and Evaluating the Optics of SCTs (280-

page B&W 6x9 softcover) \$29.95 + \$3 shipping
Collimating SCTs (88-page B&W 6x9 softcover) \$13.95 + \$2 shipping.
Making SCT Optics (320-page B&W 6x9 softcover) \$32.95 + \$4 shipping

BRAND NEW: ATM guide to setting up a Home Optics Shop (224-page B&W 6x9 softcover) \$19.95 + \$3 shipping This is a non-technical book with lots of pictures and suggestions

AVAILABLE IN ABOUT 1 MONTH: Tips for making Optical Flats (approximately 80 pages, B&W 6x9 softcover), tentatively priced at \$12-13, plus \$2 shipping.

Bob Piekieł piekielrbl@aol.com or call 315-673-3093



PHOTO JOURNAL MESSIER MARATHON

AT TUVA 2011



The following are photos of the Messier Marathon 2011 that were submitted to the Observer this week by Ann Bruun, Tamera Green, Tom McDonough and Jiggles O'Shay (Steve Chapman).

From left to right: Marsha and Bob Boston, Tom McDonough, Steve Chapman (Jiggles), Ron Woods, Blake Etter, Owen and Tamara Green and Ann Bruun.













Submitted By: John Land

How dark is your night sky?

The Globe at Night project returns March 22 to April 4 before moon rise during the dark of the moon.

This project is an International collaboration to measure the effects of Light pollution.

No special equipment is needed. Just go outside and match what you see to the

Magnitude charts given. Then find your location on the world map and report your results

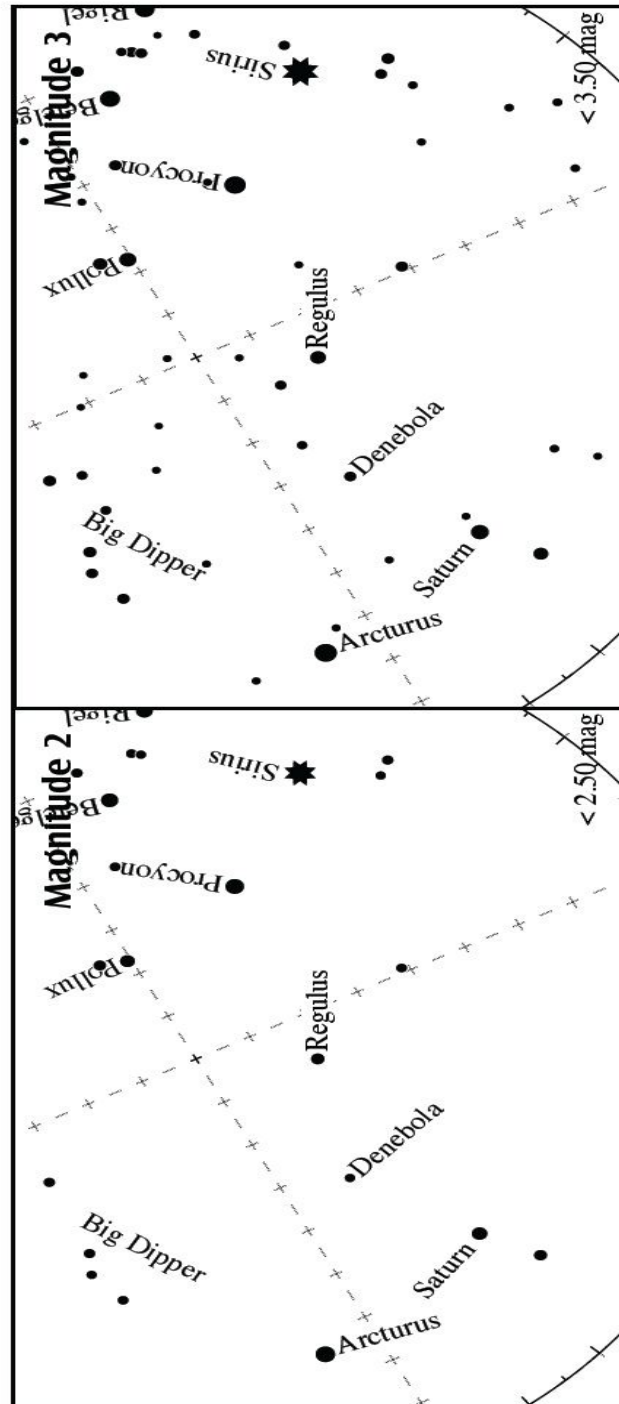
By logging in on the web.

This Spring they feature a new section of sky centered on the constellation of Leo but covers

Over 100 degrees of sky from Sirius in Canis Major to Arcturus Bootes. Since we are now on

Daylight Savings, you'll have to do your observations after 9:00 PM CDT for the sky to be dark.

The full region of the sky on the comparison charts is not well above the horizon until after 10:00 PM CDT.



Hint: You can see Regulus and Denebola (the 2 brightest stars in Leo). Regulus is part of the "Sickle" of Leo, the Lion's mane. Denebola is part of Leo's back end.

http://www.globeatnight.org/pdf/M-GaNAActivityPacket_Family_2011_N_Leo_Color.pdf



GLOBE AT NIGHT

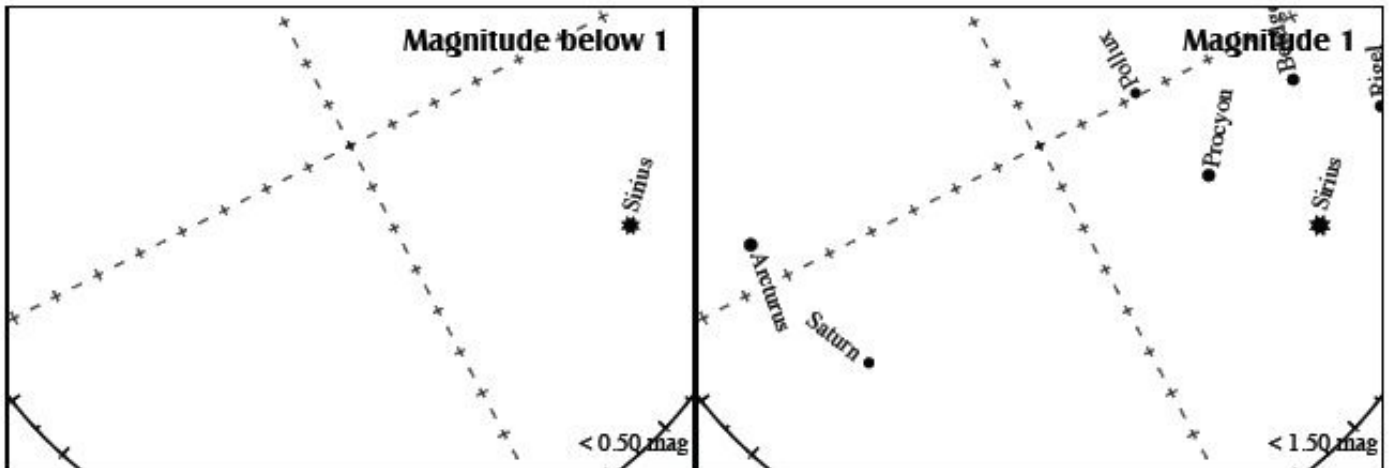
Family Activity Packet: Magnitude Charts

www.globeatnight.org

March 22 - April 4, 2011

Please orient this page with the arrows up according to your location (e.g., in the Northern Hemisphere, near the equator or in the Southern Hemisphere). The vertical size of the maps on this page are 100 degrees which is the same in length as 10 closed fists at arm's length in the direction of Leo.

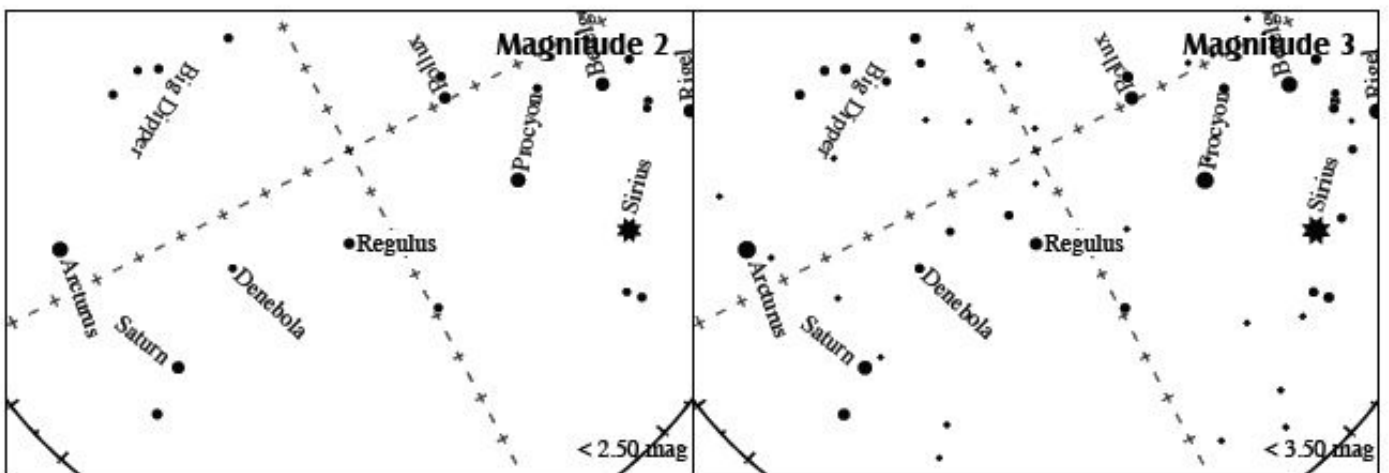
↑ Northern Hemisphere View ↑



Hint: You can't see the stars in Leo because the sky is too bright. The only nearby star you might see is Sirius, the Dog Star.

Hint: The stars in Leo should be between Arcturus (alongside planet Saturn) and the Dog stars, Procyon and Sirius, but the sky is still too bright.

↙ Near Equator View ↘



Hint: You can see Regulus and Denebola (the 2 brightest stars in Leo). Regulus is part of the "Sickle" of Leo, the Lion's mane. Denebola is part of Leo's back end.

Hint: You can see the brightest 3 stars in the "Sickle" and the 2 brightest stars in Leo's back end.

↙ Southern Hemisphere View ↘



GLOBE AT NIGHT

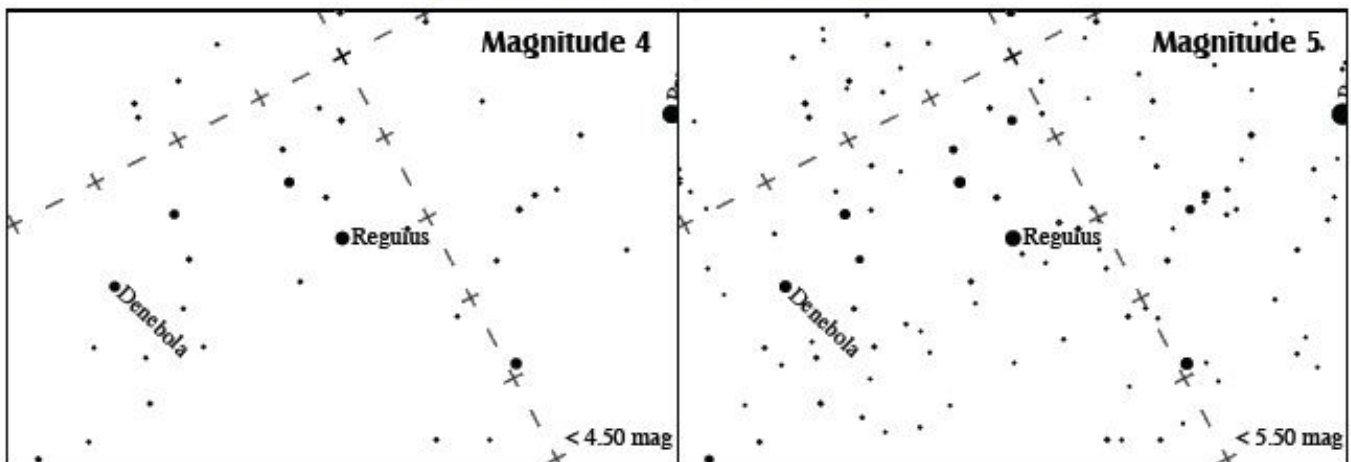
Family Activity Packet: Magnitude Charts

www.globeatnight.org

March 22 - April 4, 2011

Please orient this page with the arrows up according to your location (e.g., in the Northern Hemisphere, near the equator or in the Southern Hemisphere). The vertical size of the maps on this page are 50 degrees which is the same in length as 5 closed fists at arm's length in the direction of Leo.

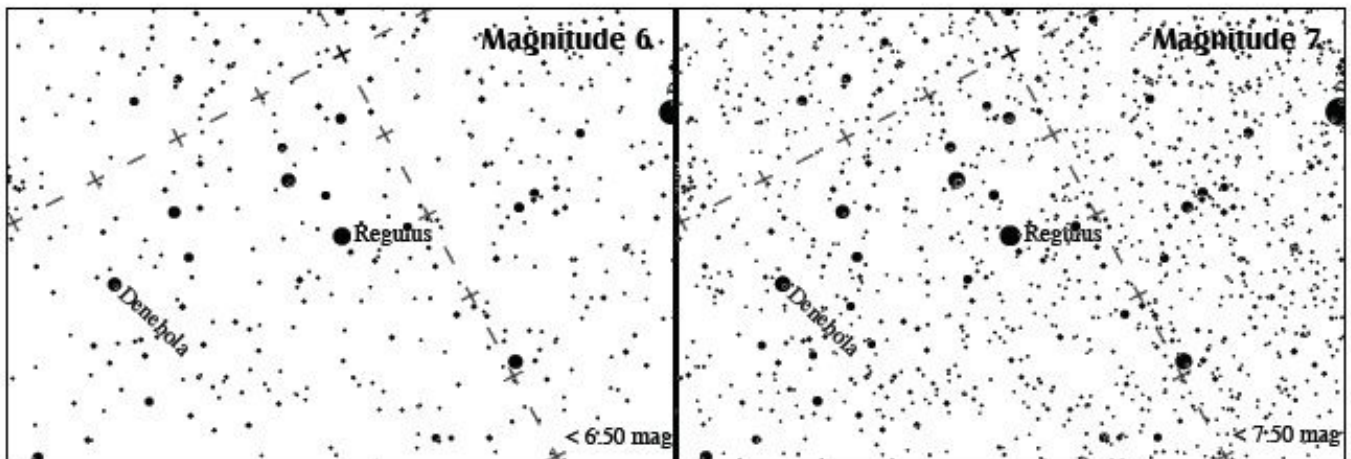
↑ Northern Hemisphere View ↑



Hint: You can see the brightest 6 stars in the "Sickle" or the mane of Leo plus the triangle of stars representing his back end.

Hint: You can see more stars between the "Sickle" and Leo's back end.

↕ Near Equator View ↕



Hint: You can see many more stars within and between the "Sickle" and Leo's back end.

Hint: You can't count that many stars!

↕ Southern Hemisphere View ↕



GLOBE AT NIGHT

Family Activity Packet: Observation Sheet

www.globeatnight.org

March 22 - April 4, 2011

Only fields marked by * are required.

*Date: March / April (circle month) _____, 2011

*Observation Time: ____:____ PM local time (HH:MM)

*Country: _____

*Latitude (in deg/min/sec ____ deg ____ min ____ sec
or decimal degrees): _____ decimal degrees

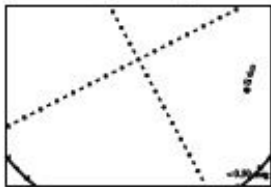
(North / South)
circle direction

*Longitude (in deg/min/sec ____ deg ____ min ____ sec
or decimal degrees): _____ decimal degrees

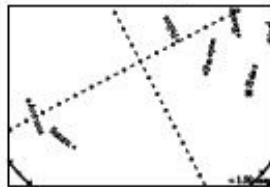
(East / West)
circle direction

Comments on location: (e.g. There is one street light within 50 m that is shielded from my view.)

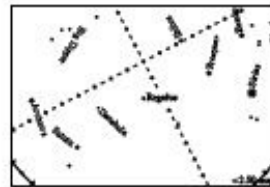
*Match your nighttime sky to one of our magnitude charts :



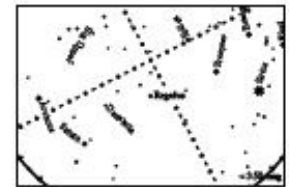
Stars in Leo
not visible



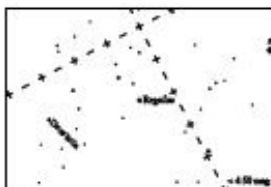
Magnitude 1 Chart



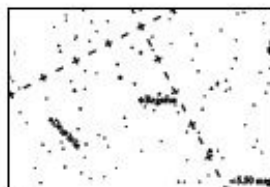
Magnitude 2 Chart



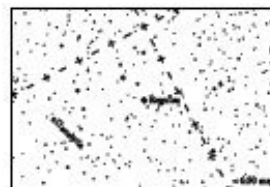
Magnitude 3 Chart



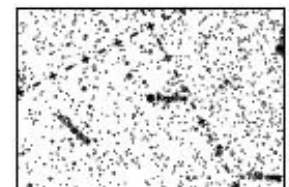
Magnitude 4 Chart



Magnitude 5 Chart



Magnitude 6 Chart



Magnitude 7 Chart

Reading from the Unihedron Sky Quality Meter (if applicable): _____

Serial number from the Unihedron Sky Quality Meter (if applicable): _____

*Estimate the cloud cover in the sky:

Clear Clouds cover 1/4 of sky Clouds cover 1/2 of sky Clouds cover > 1/2 of sky

Comments on sky conditions: (e.g. a little haze to the north)

Report online at www.globeatnight.org/report.html



ASTRONOMY CLUB OF TULSA – MINUTES— GENERAL MEETING FRI FEB 18, 2011.

PRESENT:

Owen Green, President
Teresa Kincannon, Vice President
Tamara Green, Secretary
John Land, Treasurer
Tim Davis, Board
Bill Goswick, Board

NOT PRESENT:

Christopher Proctor, Board
Allen Martin, Board

There were 39 people in attendance, including guests.

President Owen Green called the meeting to order at 19:05

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION: Owen introduced himself, welcomed members and guests to the Astronomy Club of Tulsa February Meeting. He made an announcement that KC Lobrecht had lost her glasses and if anyone sees them to please let her know, Tamara spotted them under a chair. He then introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Mr. Virgil Reese of the Bartlesville Astronomical Society and turned the floor over to him.

PROGRAM: Virgil Reese, Bartlesville Astronomical Society. He is an amateur Evolutionary Biologist. He gave a really fun presentation on Exobiology.

OFFICERS'/TAFF REPORTS:

PRESIDENT/PR/OUTREACH/SIDEWALK/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Owen discussed upcoming events:

Sidewalk Astronomy, Sat Feb 19, Bass Pro, 6 PM.

Monthly (Public) Star Party, Fri, Feb 25, ACT Observatory, 6 PM.

Members' Night, Fri, Mar 4, ACT Observatory, 6:30 PM.

Messier Marathon, Sat, Mar 5, TUVVA, 4:00 PM. Dinner and set up begins at 4, then the Marathon begins when it gets dark.

General Meeting, Fri, Mar 18, TCC Metro Campus, 7 PM.

Sidewalk Astronomy, Sat, Mar 19, Bass Pro, 7:30 PM.

Monthly (Public) Star Party, Fri, Mar 25, ACT Observatory, 7:30 PM.

SECRETARY : Tamara read the minutes from the December 2010 meeting. The January 2011 meeting was canceled due to weather and TPS closures.

TREASURER : John put the annual treasurers report in the newsletter. The Club has \$1600 in checking, \$6400 in savings, and 118 members, including 2 new members.

KC got our water leak fixed at the observatory. Now we need someone with a truck to go up there to assess the condition of the observatory now, to see what damage, if any, was done to it by the blizzard.

VP/GROUPS : Anyone who wants to participate w/groups, email Teresa. There are upcoming groups scheduled.

OBSERVING : Ann talked about the Messier Marathon, explaining what it is and what we do. Tom McDonough worked up charts for finding these objects for this year. Any questions, see her after the meeting or email her. Caravan to TUVA will meet at the Burger King at the BA and Elm in Broken Arrow. Leaves at 3 PM.

FACILITIES: Christopher Proctor not present, no report.

Owen invited all who wanted to to meet for dinner at Hideaway Pizza on Cherry Street and introduced our newsletter editor, Jerry Mullennix.

He then announced that the Board Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 12th at 10:00 or 10:30 AM, Oak Brook Village Condos clubhouse.

Meeting was adjourned at 20:46

Lands Tidbits – by *John Land* for March 2011

Welcome Recent New Members: Bryan (Skip) Whitehurst, Kevin Pargeter

Membership rates for 2011 will be as follows.

Adults - \$ 45 per year includes Astronomical League Membership

Sr. Adult \$ 35 per year for those 65 or older includes Astronomical League Membership

Students \$ 30 with League membership **Students** \$ 25 without League membership.

Additional Family membership \$ 20 with voting rights and League membership. \$ 15 without 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.

Magazine Subscriptions: If your magazines are coming up for renewal, try to **save the mailing label** or renewal form you get in the mail. Forms are available on the club website.

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

To get the club discount you must go through the club group rate

Sky & Telescope is \$33 / yr www.skyandtelescope.com

Sky and Telescope also offers a 10% discount on their products.

Note: **You may renew your Sky & Telescope subscription Directly Online** without having to mail in the subscriptions to the club. **NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS** must still be sent to the club treasurer.

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.

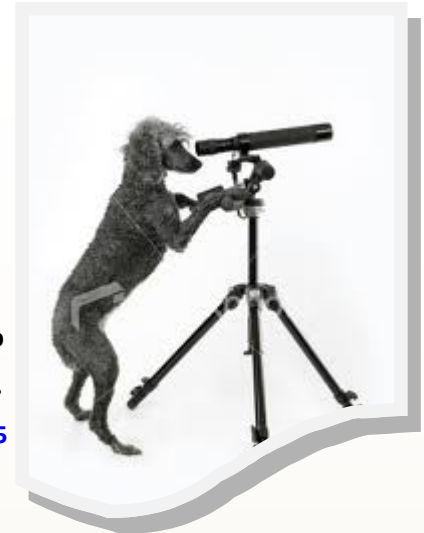
<http://www.astrotulsa.com/Club/join.asp> To Join or Renew Memberships

You can then **print a copy of the form and mail in your check.**

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 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



CLUB OFFICERS

President	Owen Green	918-851-8171
Vice-President	Teresa Kincannon	918-637-1477
Treasurer	John Land	918-357-1759
Secretary	Tamara Green	918-581-1213

APPOINTED STAFF

Newsletter Editor	Jerry Mullennix	
Facility Manager	Chris Proctor	918-810-6210
Membership Chair	John Land	918-357-1759
Observing Chair	Ann Bruun	918-834-0757
New Members	Owen Green	918-851-8171
Group Director	Tamara Green	918-581-1213
Webmaster	Jennifer Jones	
Night Sky Network	Teresa Kincannon	918-637-1477

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Bill Goswick	
Allen Martin	918-407-9706
Tim Davis	
Chris Proctor	918-810-6210

MEMBERSHIP INFO

Astronomy Club of Tulsa membership (\$45/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.

**Jiggles O'Shae Chapman's—Astro Words of Wisdom:
"GOTO Scopes perform poorly on yachts."**

ACT welcomes your questions, suggestions, comments and submissions for publication. Please send all inquiries to act_pm@astrotulsa.com

Night Sky Network

Astronomy Clubs bringing the wonders of the universe to the public

