



Astronomy Club of Tulsa

OBSERVER

November 2006

<http://www.AstroTulsa.com>

ACT, Inc. has been meeting continuously since 1937 and was incorporated in 1986. It is a nonprofit, tax deductible organization dedicated to promoting, to the public, the art of viewing and the scientific aspect of astronomy.



What

The Astronomy Club of Tulsa Star Party

When

3 November 2006, 6:00 PM

Where

Ryan's Steakhouse
74th and Memorial



President's Message

Tim Davis

Please join us for our annual dinner meeting at Ryan's Steakhouse at 74th and Memorial on Friday, November 3rd. This meeting is a time for us to just relax and enjoy some good food and good company and some lively discussions on astronomy and who knows what else. There may even be a door prize or two.

November is now here and that means longer nights with the time change and earlier sunsets. That is a plus for us astronomers, but it also means even colder nights, so throw on an extra layer when you venture out. I hope everyone has had a chance to see the nice comet now visible in our western evening skies, comet C/2006 M4 (SWAN). It was a beautiful telescopic and binocular object up until a couple of nights ago, when it brightened suddenly to near naked eye limits. Who knows how long that will last, so don't miss a chance to try and see it, you will not be disappointed.

Our last star party on October 20th was a very nice night. Around 35-40 people showed up on a pleasant fall night, with clear skies, light winds, and a very dark sky with much less sky glow from Tulsa than usual. This was one of the better nights for a star party in quite a while. My thanks to club member Justin Guerrero for manning the observatory telescope for the night. He recently went through one of training classes to learn how to use the scope, and he put that to good use by showing our visitors and guests some wonderful sights through our new scope. Next star party is November 17th.

At our October general meeting at TU, we had our annual elections of officers and board members. The results of the elections are this, yours truly as President, Tamara Green as Vice President, John Land as Treasurer and Teresa

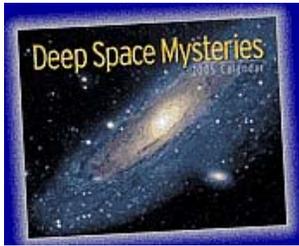
Kincannon as Secretary. Board members for the year will be Richard Alford, Steve Chapman, Craig Davis, Rod Gallagher, Owen Green, Denny Mishler, Jerry Mullennix and Tony White. Due to an error on my part and some miscommunication, board member from last year Jim Miller was erroneously removed from the ballot during the elections. At our November meeting, we will hold a special vote to add an extra board member position for the year to allow Jim to continue as a board member.

The date for our general meeting at TU in December has been changed from the 1st to the 8th due to a conflict with a men's basketball game on the 1st. We

should also have a very interesting speaker at this meeting. That will be OU Professor of Physics and Astronomy Yun Wang. The title of her talk will be "The Dark Side of the Universe" and will be about dark energy and dark matter.

Club member John Barry has a request. If you own a Meade 10" LX200, John would like to talk to you about your scope. He is thinking about upgrading from his 8" and would like to talk to someone that owns the 10" about the size and weight of the bigger scope. If you own one of these and would like to give John some info, you can contact him at johnb@kfoc.net.

Put a bundle of Starlight under your Christmas tree



2007 Deep Space Mysteries Wall Calendars from Astronomy magazine are here. Twelve stunning Astronomy photos plus all the major astronomy events for the year. As club members you can get yours for \$ 8.00 each a 38% discount over the cover price. **ONLY 20 LEFT** on hand so send in your requests ASAP Contact John Land to reserve yours



2007 Royal Canadian Observers Handbooks - will be available this year at \$18.00 each provided we get orders for 10 or more orders. This excellent observing guide has detailed calendars of observing events throughout the year. Due to the high cost of the handbook these must be **PREPAID** no later than the November 3rd meeting to have them arrive on time.



Make the most of your **Astronomical League** membership! To find out more about what the Astronomical League offers you, why not log on to www.astroleague.org today?

Working on an observing project or observing certificate. What to image your favorite object? "What's Up, Doc" can help you plan your observing experience. It features monthly lists of observable objects for each certificate plus an extensive observing spreadsheet to customize your own observing. <http://www.astronomyclub.org/wud.htm>

Lands Tidbits

By John Land

Welcome Recent New Members: Greg Phillips, Dave Grimmer, Ben Grimmer, Kaase Eddingfield, John Podpechan

DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP or Subscriptions LAPSE !! Check your MAILING LABEL for membership expiration date. Those receiving Email should get a reminder when your membership is up for renewal or you may contact John Land. You may also renew magazine subscriptions through the club for substantial discounts.

GUEST SIGN IN SECTION on the Website is already bringing the club new contacts for potential new members.

Changing EMAIL - When you change your email or mailing address be sure to send me the new information so I can update the club records. You can use the Join feature on the club web page to make changes.

ON LINE Club Memberships and Renewals:

Adults - \$ 35 per year includes Astronomical League Membership

Students \$ 15 without League membership.

Students \$ 20 with League membership.

* Student shall be defined as a person 25 or younger actively taking courses at a college or trade school or persons still in High school or below.

* Adult Students over 25 may join at the student rate for one year if enrolled in an Astronomy course in an area college.

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> 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

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 / yr
www.skyandtelescope.com Sky and Telescope also offers a 10% discount on their products.

NIGHT SKY is \$18 / yr A exciting new bi-monthly magazine for beginning or casual astronomers. <http://nightskymag.com/>

Address Corrections- Email changes - Questions:

You may forward questions to the club call our message line at **918-688-MARS (6277)** Or go to the 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 address or email

NIGHT SKY NETWORK

By Jerry Mullennix

Well its been a pretty good month for viewing, weÆve had comets, meteorites, and some of our favorite fall/winter objects have come back around. I am still puzzled as to what happened to fall, it seems like we went from hot summer straight to cold winter, but that is how it goes in Oklahoma.

I would once again like to remind everyone that the transit of Mercury takes place on the 8th of November. There is a small group of us going to the observatory for a day in the sun. If you can make arrangements to come out plan on being there at 12:00 to give yourself time to setup. Sadly, I spoke to Tim Davis and he was not as excited as the rest of us with the idea of him providing steaks for everyone who showed up, so it will be necessary to bring your own everything. Craig Davis has committed to bringing coffee and snacks as he always does.

If you are not sure what a transit is or you are new to the club and would like to read more about this event please see my article in last months newsletter. This is a rare event and if you can get away from work please join us.

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.

OFFICERS

President:
Tim Davis
918.665.8134
Vice-President:
Jerry Mullennix
918.712.9776
Treasure:
John Land
918.357.1759
Secretary:
Teresa Kincannon
918.637.1477

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Steve Chapman
Craig Davis
Rod Gallagher
Tamara Green
Dan Lamoreaux
Jim Miller
Denny Mishler
Tony White

APPOINTED STAFF

RMCC Observatory Director:
Teresa Kincannon—918.637.1477
RMCC Facility Manager:
Craig Davis—918.252.1781
Membership Chairman:
John Land—918.357.1759
Observing Chairman:
David Stine—918.834.1310
New Members:
Denny Mishler—918.274.4772
Newsletter Editor:
Richie Shroff—918.835.3565
Webmaster:
Tom McDonough—918.665.1853

Astronomy Club of Tulsa
918.688.MARS (6277)

<http://www.AstroTulsa.com>

ASTRONOMY CLUB OF TULSA
P.O. BOX 470611
TULSA OK 74147-0611