



OBSERVER

September 2026

*Bringing Stars to the eyes of Tulsa
since 1937*

Editor – John Land



Bruce Marriner

Observatory with Star Trails By Bruce Marriner

Image taken with Olympus Systems OM1mkII camera with a 9mm lens @ f 2 and ISO 200. The exposure was composed of a series of 30 seconds exposures over a period of 90 minutes. The Olympus camera has a built in "Live Comp" mode that takes an initial photo and then continues each successive image only adding the new highlights into the stack. The image was taken Saturday August 15 facing NW beginning at 21:40

Note - Venus and crescent moon setting in lower left. If you zoom in on the photo you can see several satellite and plane trails plus a couple of meteor streaks.

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Check out our website [Events Section](#) for these and future events

Friday Sept 25 – 7:00 PM – Join us for our In Person Astronomy Club meeting at our new location, the Tulsa Air & Space Museum Planetarium. Guests are Welcome details will be posted later on the website.

Friday Sept 18 – 6:00 PM Telescope Night at Keystone Ancient Forest

Stargazing Nights and Observatory Nights

Come enjoy an evening of star gazing at our observatory located in dark rural skies SW of Tulsa
 Details, Times and Direction Maps are posted on our Website <https://www.astrotulsa.com/events>

Guest and member Observatory nights

FRIDAY Sept 4 - 7:15 PM Guest & Members Night

SATURDAY Oct 3 - 6:30 PM Guest & Members Night

Astronomy Club Members Nights

Our members are invited to come work on their observing goals, do some Astro imaging and share ideas.

Friday Sept 11 - 7:15 PM Members Observatory Night

Friday Oct 9 - 6:30 PM Members Observatory Night

If a Friday event must be cancelled due to weather, we will try on Saturday 30 minutes before sunset -
 Always check the website for event updates

Follow Us on Social Media

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AstronomyClubofTulsa>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/stories/tulsa.astronomyclub/>

Website <https://www.astrotulsa.com/>





Okie-Tex Fri Oct 9 – Sat 17 registration and meal reservations must be paid **BEFORE Sept 19 !** It's 35 miles to the nearest town !

Okie-Tex Star Party Oct 9 – 17 <https://www.okie-tex.com/index.php>

Each year about 500 astronomers arrive from all over the nation for a week-long feast of starlight. Okie-Tex is held on a spacious observing area just west of the Black Mesa State Park at the far western end of the Oklahoma Panhandle. Its Bortle 1 dark skies are acclaimed as some of the darkest on the planet. Each time I go I am overwhelmed by the late summer Milky Way flowing overhead like a river of stars engulfing the sky. You need to register in advance and reserve your meal choices



Astronomy@250: The Life & Legacy of Dr. Nancy Grace Roman

Aug 27, 2026 @ 07:00 PM in Central Time

You can find the free program live on YouTube & available later at <https://www.youtube.com/@astrosocietydotorg>

The Astronomical Society of the Pacific is celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Nancy Grace Roman with a panel moderated by Dr. France Córdoba, former director of the National Science Foundation. The panel will explore Dr. Roman's scientific vision, leadership, philanthropy, and enduring influence on astronomy. This free public event is part of the Astro Society 2026: Astronomy@250 Conference.



"Salutations club members, far and wide !

As summer begins its slow march toward fall—and Oklahoma hopefully begins remembering that temperatures below 100 degrees are, in fact, allowed—we have plenty to look back on and even more to look forward to.

For starters, we held our **first-ever Astronomy on Tap at Neff Brewing**, and with an estimated **60–70 people in attendance**, I would call our first outing a resounding success! From presentations on the universe to conversations over a drink and even a little telescope viewing afterward, it was clear that the people of Tulsa are excited to see us out in the community—and hungry to learn more about the skies above them. A huge thank you again to Neff Brewing for hosting us and helping us launch what I hope will become another regular way for the club to connect with our community. Keep an eye out for future Astronomy on Tap events!

Speaking of looking ahead, I am excited to officially announce that our move to the **Tulsa Air and Space Museum Planetarium** is now official! Beginning this fall, our in-person club meetings will be held at TASM, with our first meeting taking place on **Friday, September 25th at 7:00 PM**. This will serve as a great introductory and welcome-back meeting as we cover some of the highlights from our busy summer, look ahead to the fall season, and feature members both new and old. If you've been looking for a good opportunity to bring a friend, introduce someone to the club, or simply get back involved, this will be a great meeting to do it!

Meanwhile, work continues at the observatory. Most recently, a small group of members spent several hours removing the old cable system previously used to raise and lower the observatory dome shutter.

While perhaps not the flashiest upgrade, removing the aging cable has made the process of opening and closing the dome significantly safer and is another important step in improving the facility one project at a time.

Along those same lines, our observatory "**think tank**"—because, frankly, I despise the word *committee*—has officially begun meeting to hammer out the details surrounding the future of our dome telescope. We are still very much in the early stages of this process, and there is a considerable amount of work ahead of us as we evaluate our needs, establish long-term goals, research possible telescope and mount options, examine the broader needs of the observatory, and explore potential funding opportunities.

This will not be a quick process, nor should it be. We're talking about decisions that could shape the Astronomy Club of Tulsa for decades to come. While the project may very well carry us beyond our 90th anniversary and into our 91st—or beyond—I wouldn't want to tackle it with any other group of people. We have assembled a team with a wide range of experience, perspectives, and ideas, and while finding consensus may occasionally take some time, I believe that if we continue chipping away at the problem, we will eventually arrive at a unified direction that is truly best for the club.

And, of course, we can't forget the **Perseid Meteor Shower!** Members gathered at the observatory to watch one of the year's most anticipated celestial events, and while meteor observing is never something we can completely control, there were certainly plenty of "oohs" and "ahhs" as streaks of light crossed the Oklahoma sky. Events like these remain some of my favorite reminders that astronomy doesn't always require a telescope. Sometimes, all you need is a dark sky, a lawn chair, good company, and a reason to look up.

As we head into the fall season, the club has a packed schedule ahead. Between Guest Nights, Members Nights, Outreach events, Astronomy on Tap, our new meetings at the Tulsa Air and Space Museum, and several additional events still in the works, there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved. **Stay tuned for dates, details, and a few more announcements still to come!**

As always, thank you to everyone who continues supporting the Astronomy Club of Tulsa. Whether you're volunteering your time, attending events, sharing our posts, donating to the observatory, introducing someone new to astronomy, or simply following along from afar—you are helping us build the future of this nearly 90-year-old club.

And as we approach that incredible milestone, I'm reminded that the future of the club won't be built by one telescope, one event, or one person. It will be built slowly, piece by piece, by people who care enough to give their time, ideas, and energy toward something bigger than themselves.

So, here's to the next event, the next improvement, the next clear night, and eventually—the next 90 years under the skies of Tulsa.

This is Jonathan Fussell, wondering... if light pollution is so bad that I can see my neighbor's porch light from three counties away, can I start billing them for ruining my astrophotography? Seriously— nobody needs floodlights every two feet around their house unless they're secretly terrified of the dark. Maybe that's what we have: a mass childhood fear of the dark playing out on a societal level. Because if we all turned off a few lights once in a while, we'd realize we already have the universe's best night-light hanging right above our heads.

Until next month, Clear skies, everyone

*President Jonathan Fussell,
Astronomy Club of Tulsa -
"Bringing Stars to the Eyes of Tulsa since 1937"*



Clickable Hyperlink Images

CHECK OUT OUR NEW SELECTION OF ONLINE SKY LINKS ABOVE

[Astronomy Calendar 2026: All Major Celestial Events of the Year](#)

Explore a Month-by-Month listing of Celestial Events – Many have links to Details or Videos

[Daily Moon Guide](#) | Observe – Moon: NASA Science

GOT A NEW TELESCOPE? Here are some sites to help you get started with your telescope.

Getting Started with Your New Telescope

<https://skyandtelescope.org/astronomy-news/getting-started-with-your-new-telescope-2/>

Astronomy for Beginners | Night Sky Facts, FAQs & Resources

<https://skyandtelescope.org/astronomy-information/>

[What to Know Before Buying a Telescope](#)

A collection of [Interactive Sky Watching Tools](#)

Explore Astronomical League has a wide variety of [Observing Certificate Programs](#)

August - Moon Phases - - Lunar Eclipse Aug 27 *

3rd Q Fri Sept 4 - **New** Thurs Sept 10 - **1st Q** Fri Sept 18- **Full** Sat Sept 26

Lunar conjunctions – **Evening** Midnight Aug 3 **Neptune** Aug 4 & 30 **Saturn**

Sat Aug 15 **Venus** **Before Dawn** **Mars** Sun Aug 9 after 3:30 AM

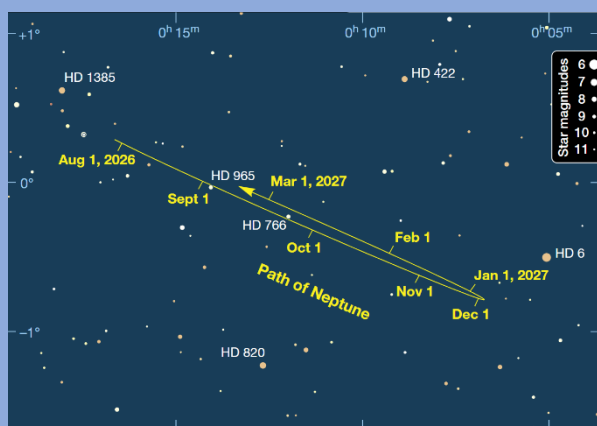
Jupiter & Mercury are too close to the Sun this month



Our evening planet **VENUS** reaches its maximum brilliance at -4.8 mag on Sept 22 appearing as a 22% illuminated crescent. [Galileo's 1610 observations](#) revealed that Venus goes through a cycle of phases like the moon. This gave observational confirmation that Venus orbited the Sun and not the Earth. Even a low power telescope will easily show its shape. Set a goal to observe Venus at least once a week from now to its Inferior Conjunction between Earth and the Sun on October 24 then watch it quickly reappear in the morning sky a couple of weeks later. Since Venus is so bright observe it soon after sunset while the sky is still bright. [See Venus details.](#)



SATURN is finally emerging into the evening sky. As September opens it rises about 9:30 PM and by month's end 7:30 PM. Saturn's rings appeared edge on in March 2026 and now appear tilted 7.5° to the north. Saturn [reaches opposition](#) on October 4th. Saturn's rings surge in brilliance a couple days before and after opposition due to the [Seeliger Effect](#).



On Aug. 24, 1989, the Voyager II spacecraft flew by **NEPTUNE** giving us of best close up views of the distance planet. Neptune reaches opposition on September 25th. At magnitude + 7.8 Neptune can be seen in small to moderate telescopes. It appears slightly blue in color as the methane in its atmosphere absorbs red causing Neptune to appear a soft blue color. Magnifications 100x or more will reveal it as small 2.4'' disc. Make a sketch of the star field a couple of nights apart to reveal its motion.

MERCURY returns to the western evening sky by mid-September. It has a close conjunction with the star Spica on Sept 25. However its low altitude will make it difficult to locate. Mercury reaches maximum evening elongation from the Sun Oct 12.



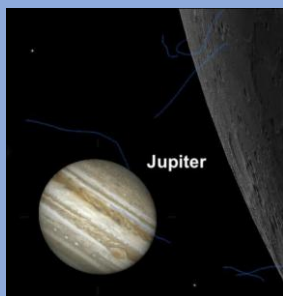
URANUS reside nestled between the star clusters of Taurus. It rises about 11:00 PM by mid-September but doesn't reach opposition until Nov 25. At 5.7 mag it can be seen in binoculars but a low power telescope will reveal its pale green color.

MARS is currently in Gemini and moving toward Cancer rising at 2:15 AM. At mag +1.2 its reddish hue is easy to spot naked eye. However, its tiny 5.2'' orb does not reveal much detail. You will enjoy better viewing when it reaches opposition Feb. 19, 2027

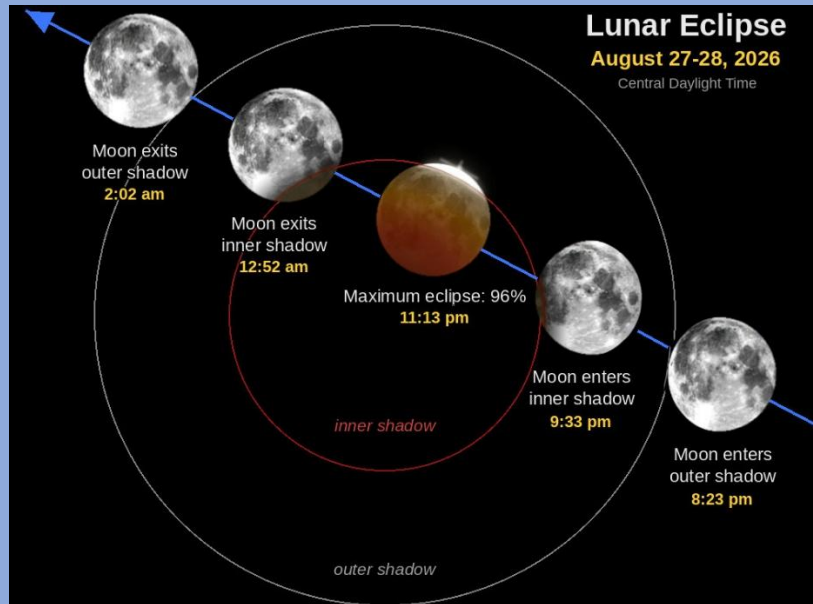


Next, we shift to the predawn sky to locate **JUPITER**. Early in September Jupiter rises in the east about 4:50 AM by the end of the month it rises at 3:30 AM.

Jupiter Daytime Occultation An hour or so before sunrise of Tuesday Sept 8th Jupiter lies 3.5° below a thin waning crescent moon. That afternoon at 2:00 PM the moon slips in front of the planet. It emerges again on the opposite side at 14:53 PM (times vary just a bit depending on your longitude) Position yourself in a shadow and look for the moon Alt 52 Az 249 WSW If you have a GoTo mount you can set it up the night before and go through the alignment process and center it on the star Rasalhague at the top of the constellation Ophiuchus about 10:00 PM. That will be near the location of the moon at 2:00 PM on the 8th. Then set your mount to hibernate and it wake it up again about 1:45 PM. If you have a Dob or Alt-Az mount use some horizon landmarks to note where your scope should be pointing the next afternoon.



Partial Lunar Eclipse Night of Aug 27-28



[Diagram from Aug. 24 SpaceWeather.com](#)

On the evening of Thursday August 27, we will have the opportunity to observe a 96.2 % partial Eclipse of the moon. A lunar eclipse occurs when the Sun, Earth and Moon are aligned so that the moon passes into the Earth's shadow. Begin your evening enjoying the Full Sturgeon Moon rising in the ESE. You don't have to go to dark skies to enjoy the eclipse. It can be enjoyed naked eye; however, binoculars or a low power telescope will enhance your view.

About 9:10 PM you will begin to notice the left side of the moon is a bit dimmer and dusky shaded as the moon enters Earth's outer shadow, the **Penumbra**. Next at 9:33 PM the moon will reach the edge of the **Umbra**, Earth's full shadow. Look for a darker "bite" on the left side. As the moon continues to slip deeper into the umbra more of the moon will be covered. The shaded part of the moon will begin to take on a dull reddish or orange shade. As the Earth's atmosphere bends the sunlight the color is the combined light of all the sunsets along the Earth's limb. At maximum eclipse 11:13 PM only a tiny slice at the top of the moon will still see some sunlight.

NOTE: This may turn out to be a very dark eclipse due to the smoke from many fires.

Historical Astronomical Note: Aristotle concluded that the Earth was a sphere by observing that Earth's shadow was always curved during a lunar eclipse. See APOD Aug 25, 2026, for an amazing image showing [Earth's Round Shadow](#) made of from a composite from 10 lunar eclipses.

The diagrams below from <https://stellarium-web.org/> will give you a general idea of the moon's appearance. You can probably get a decent picture by bracing your smart phone and zooming it to take the image. If your phone has night-time mode, try that as well.



Midnight



Maximum 11:13



10:30 PM



10:00 PM

Chasing Moon Shadows by John Land – Astronomy Club of Tulsa

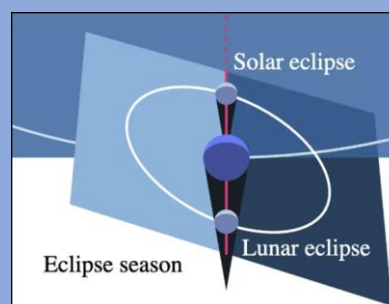
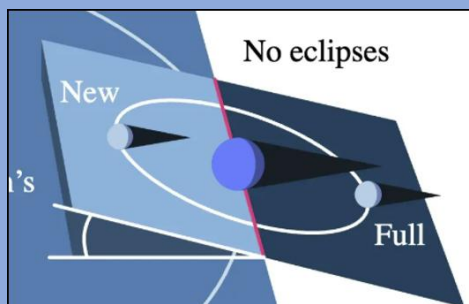


A greatly anticipated Total Solar Eclipse was enjoyed by millions on Weds Aug 12, 2026. Totality made land fall in eastern Greenland then swept along a wide path of the northern Atlantic and ended near sunset in Portugal and Spain. The Internet has been full of astounding images. You can see nearly 40 at the Spaceweather.com [Eclipse Photo Gallery](#). Above are thumbnails of my three favorites. Click the links to see the full-sized images plus information. The Aug 17 Astronomy Picture of the Day featured this [GOLDEN ECLIPSE](#) image by Rui Santos of Spain. Its golden hue resulted from its low angle near sunset and smoke from the many fires in the region. The center image was taken from Iberia flight IB1473 flying directly through the [eclipse shadow at 31,000 feet](#). The well-planned flight path is worth reading. Flight number 1473 was specifically chosen for the birth year of [Nicolaus Copernicus](#) who boldly proposed the Sun centered model of the solar system. Lastly the [PERFECT DIAMOND RING](#) proposal is from a carefully planned image by Renhao Ye & Chunyan Li Malanquilla of Aragón, Spain. You can click on their Facebook post and see several other great associated images.

As I began working on this article on August 21st, my Google phone app decided to pull up a collection of pictures from the solar eclipse of [Aug. 21, 2017](#). My family was in Humbolt, NE to see the “Great American Eclipse” on that day. Now NINE years later on [Aug. 12, 2026](#), eclipse chasers were enjoying an awe-inspiring Solar Eclipse from Greenland to Spain. While searching for the next Solar Eclipse at [NASA Eclipse Data](#) I discovered there was a Total Solar eclipse on [Aug 1, 2008](#) and one coming up in the same part of the year on [Sept 2, 2035](#). The Google map eclipse tracks for the 2017 & 2035 and the tracks for 2008 & 2026 look amazing similar separated by 18 years but one third of the world away. What’s more there is an approximate nine-year gap between all four of these events. Leading me to say in the words of a famous Tulsa newsman, Rick Wells, *“Hey What’s the Deal?”* Is there some deep cosmic mathematical secret lurking in these numbers?

As early as 500 BC ancient Babylonians, who keep careful records of events in the sky, discovered that Lunar Eclipses occurred at the same time of year in a repeating cycle about every 18 years.

(Lunar eclipses could be easily observed over a wide region anywhere the moon is up) Both Lunar and Solar eclipses follow a recurring cycle called the **SAROS**, a period of 6585.3211 days - 18 yrs 11 days 8 hours.



The Moon's orbit is tilted 5.2 degrees to the Sun's path among the stars known as the **Ecliptic**.

The points where the paths intersect are called the **Nodes**. One Ascending Node & one Descending node. Most of the year a New moon (solar eclipse) or Full moon (lunar eclipse) occurs when the moon is too far above or below the ecliptic to produce an eclipse. The moon and sun appear about 0.5 degrees wide so twice a year when the sun is near a node of the moon's orbit the two overlap making an eclipse.

Caution: Math Alert ! The length of time the moon takes to complete one orbit around the Earth (perigee to perigee) is the **Anomalistic Month** = 27d 13h 18m 33s During this time the Earth has continued on its orbit around the sun which takes about two more days to complete its Lunar phase cycle (New Moon to New Moon) called a **Synodic Month** = 29d 12h 44m 03s This is the most familiar cycle. Even today many religious and indigenous cultures base their calendars on this cycle. Finally, the period the moon takes to move from (node to node) is the **Draconic Month** = 27d 05h 05m 36s

Now for the FUN MATH ! Find the closest common factor of -
Anomalistic = 27.554550 days Synodic Month = 29.530589 days Draconic Month = 27.212221 days



223 Synodic Months	= 6585.3223 days	= 6585d 07h 43m	AKA the SAROS period
239 Anomalistic Months	= 6585.5375 days	= 6585d 12h 54m	
242 Draconic Months	= 6585.3575 days	= 6585d 08h 35m	

For more extensive information see [Eclipses and the Saros](#)

There are two **Eclipse Seasons** each year when the sun passes near one of the lunar nodes. It takes about 35 days for the sun to cross that region of the sky. Since the lunar phase cycle is 29.5 days during this time there will be TWO eclipses (a Lunar and a Solar) visible somewhere in the world at new and full moon. If the timing is right, there may be 3 eclipses – a partial – long Total – a partial. Each year the corresponding eclipse season arrives about 20 days earlier than the previous year. This year, 2026, as the sun was crossing the moon's descending node, there was a Total Solar Aug 12 and Partial Lunar Aug 27. In **2027** the descending node eclipse season has a Penumbral Lunar eclipse July 18 – [Total Solar Aug 2](#) – and Penumbral lunar Aug 17

But WAIT ! MARK YOUR CALENDARS ! !

TULSA WILL BE DEAD CENTER on the path of an [AUGUST SIX-MINUTE TOTAL SOLAR ECLISPE ! !](#)

**TULSA ASTRONOMY CLUB MEETINGS ARE MOVING to our new location
Tulsa Air and Space Museum in the James E. Bertelsmeyer Planetarium**



It's easy to locate on the north side of the airport [3624 N 74th East Ave, Tulsa, OK 74115](#)
The entrance is a bit east of the entrance to the Tulsa Zoo

Our regular meetings are scheduled once a month on a Friday evening at 7:00 PM
Check our website for specific dates.

See a visual Asteroid Occultation over Tulsa by John Land

Details shared by Skip Whitehurst

In keeping with the theme of shadows and eclipses, we have a made to order opportunity to observe a different kind of “eclipse” as an asteroid pass directly in front of a star. Skip Whitehurst passes along this perfect made to order opportunity to observe a Visual Asteroid Occultation over Tulsa and nearby regions. On Friday Sept 11 the asteroid 1999 JS82 occults the 8.4 Mag star HIP 90266 (HD 169292) in Sagittarius which should be easily visible in most telescopes. The star lies in the same one-degree field of view as the globular cluster M 28. Below is a screen shot from my phone app as well an actual image from my Seestar S50.

The map on the next page shows the predicted center green line runs near Lake Keystone to Wagoner, including Sand Springs, Midtown Tulsa, and BA all close to the center line, and extending beyond in both directions. Green line on the map is the predicted center line (longest occultation), blue lines are the predicted edges, red lines are 1 sigma outside the predicted edges (68% chance) This [Google Occultation map link](#) will let you zoom in to your exact location.

The **Occultation time** is predicted for **10:27:41 CDT** (Sand Springs) to **10:27:45** (BA). The star will be located in the SSW Azimuth 209 and Altitude 23 degrees. Have your telescope set up at least half an hour before the occultation and carefully center it on the target star. Doing a search for M28 will place your scope very near the star. The star HIP 90266 is also identified with catalog designations HD 169292 or SAO 16787 which are more likely to be found in your telescope database.

Set your phone or watch for the exact time <https://www.time.gov/> Set alarms on your phone about 5 minutes early -10:22 - so you will be fully focused on the target star. You won't be able to see the 17.8 mag asteroid. Watch the star carefully. When the asteroid occults the star it should **BLINK OUT FOR UP TO ABOUT 1 SECOND** If you see that occur – you have just witnessed an asteroid occultation! If you want to report a positive observation, find the exact location of your telescope by using the Compass App on your phone. In our August 2026 newsletter there is an occultation article describing how some of our club members are able to make super accurate timings. However, a Positive Visual confirmation helps as well. Even a negative observation if you are inside the map markings can be of value.

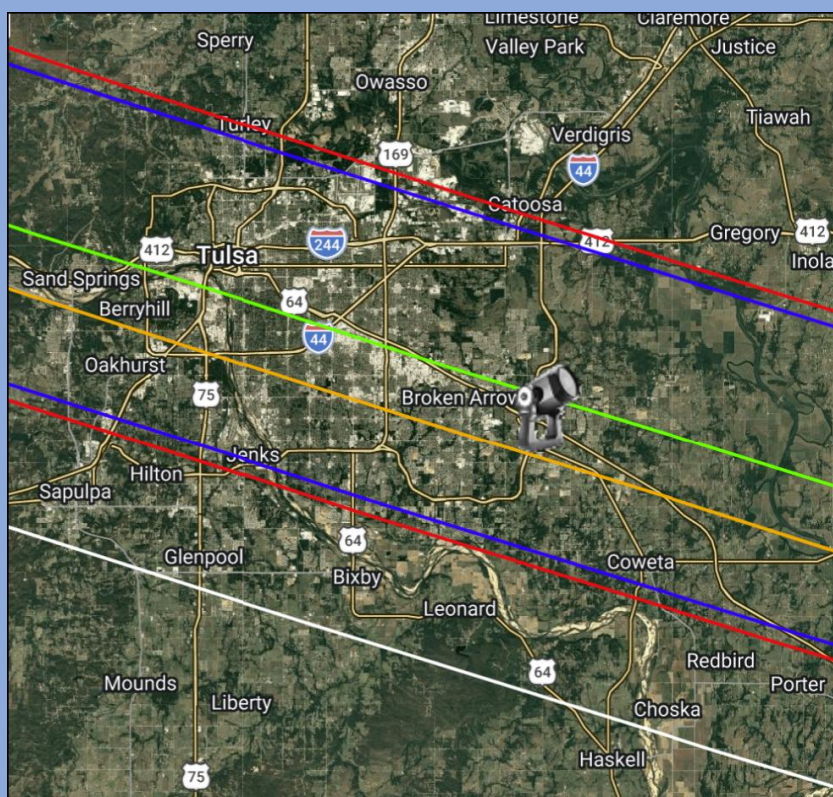
Report your findings to -

Skip Whitehurst - skip.whitehurst@gmail.com or John Moore - john@jmooreou.com



The star is a yellow-white giant, B9 III/IV - 1.9 times hotter than our Sun and 3.9 times larger. It has a mass 4.6 times larger and its total luminosity is 211 times more than the sun's. Its distance is 2038 light years away. So, the light we see from the star left when **Augustus Ceasar** was Emperor of Rome.

This [Google Occultation map link](#) will let you zoom in to your exact location as well as show specific details of the occultation event.



The International Occultation Timing Association has extensive resources for people interested in becoming involved. <https://occultations.org/>

Want to participate with the Tulsa Occultation Timing Team?

"A limited number of people can work with John, Don, or Skip as they record the event for later detailed analysis and reporting. If you are interested, please email Skip by Sept 8 to skip.whitehurst@gmail.com to reserve a spot. If there is room, you will be given the exact location and time you will need to be there. Do not attempt to determine the locations we will be setting up from the map display; they may change, and the application intentionally fuzzes them for security purposes. Please indicate the general area you will be starting from and we will try to assign you to a station convenient to you, if possible."

Recap of a very successful recent stellar occultation by ACT members

By John Moore

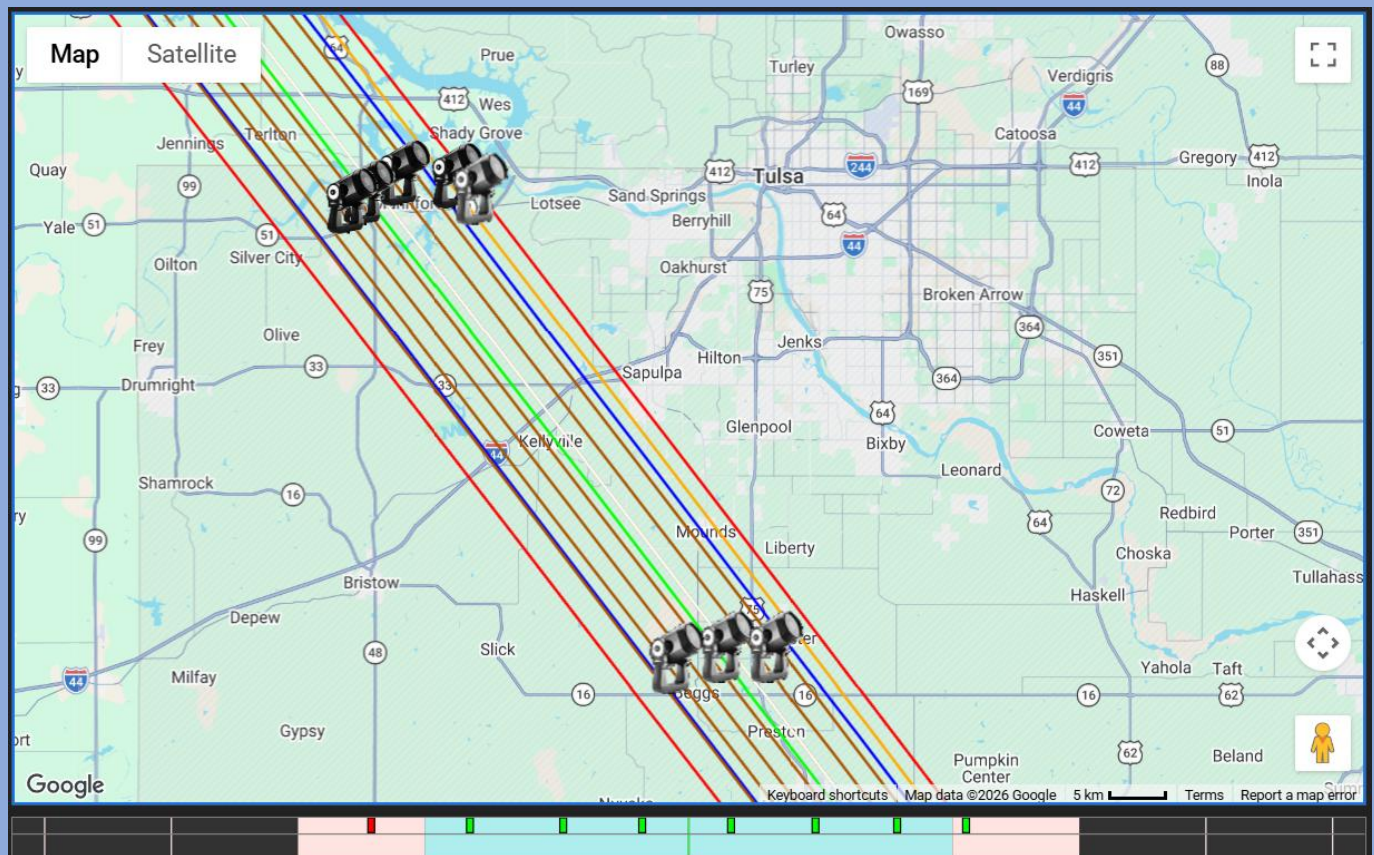
On July 21, 2026, ACT members Skip Whitehurst, Don Sailing and John Moore observed an occultation of asteroid 40417 (provisional name 1999-RD16) as it occulted the visual magnitude 7.7 (nice and bright) HIP 117498.

The NASA/MPC database shows two former single chord (one observer) occultations of this asteroid. A single chord observation provides confirmation that an asteroid exists and its minimum diameter based on the duration of the recorded occultation.

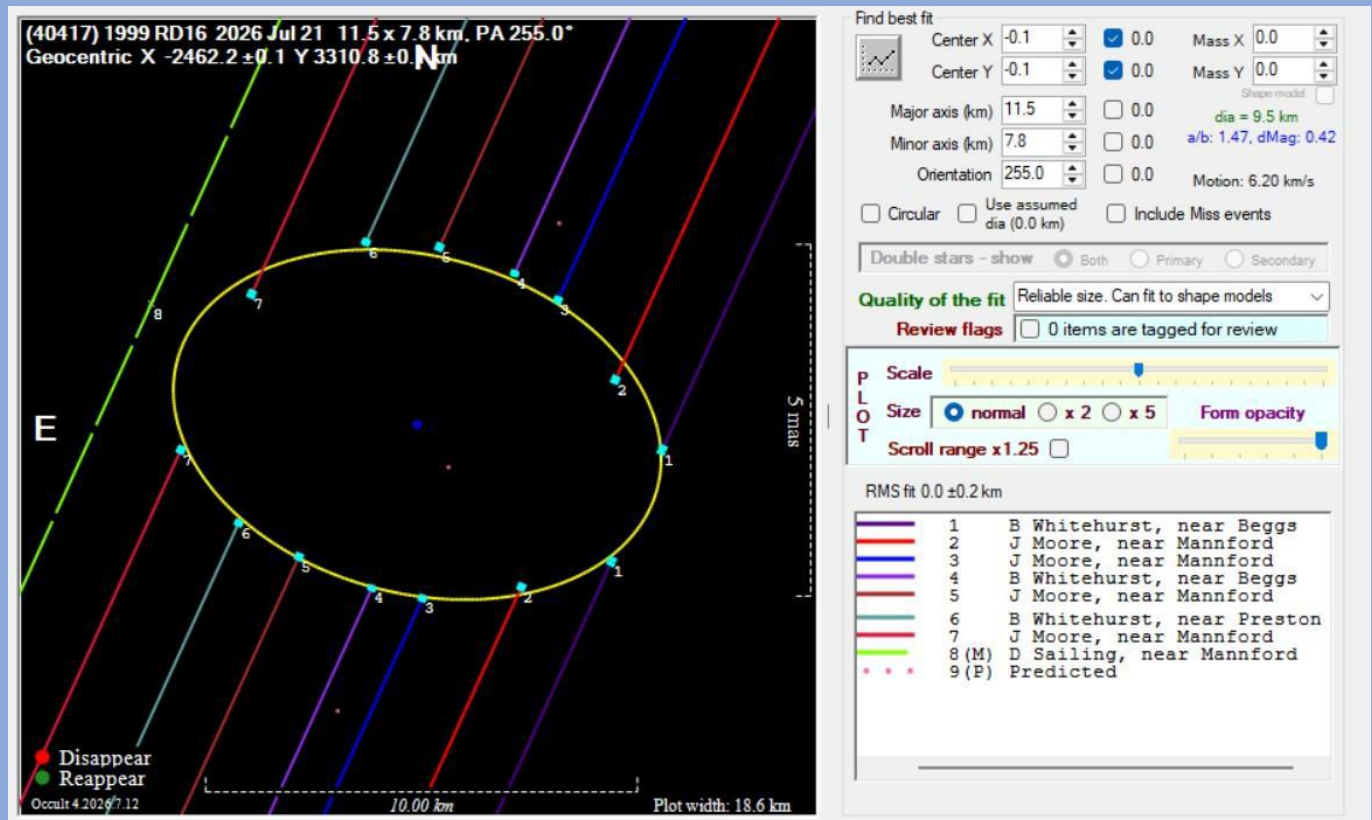
When an occultation event includes multiple chords, a precise 2D dimensional shape profile can be derived.

The three observers planned to deploy a total of 8 telescopes distributed along the predicted shadow path (between the red lines) including the planned locations for each of the three observers. Skip deployed 3 scopes near Beggs while Don and John deployed 5 scopes along highway 51 near Mannford.

At the bottom of the map is the graphical distribution of the 8 stations across the predicted path with the green being positive occultations and the red being negative. Spreading out across the predicted path allows for us to determine high resolution shape data on the body.



The night was clear and all stations recorded good data that resulted in 7 positive and one negative observation. The results provide precise shape and profile data that will be added to the MPC database



With advanced planning, good execution, and some luck with the weather conditions, the recorded results show an elliptical body that is 11.5km x 7.8km in size, which is a significant refinement to the MPC's former estimate of a spherical 10km shape.

Occultation science is often referred to as "chasing shadows" and is another highly rewarding activity for astronomers all over the globe. Last month's newsletter documented Skip and Don collaborating on an earlier event that resulted in the discovery of a satellite orbiting the target asteroid, which is rather like finding a unicorn while hiking in the woods.

For additional information you can contact ACT members

Don Sailing, Skip Whitehurst or John Moore.

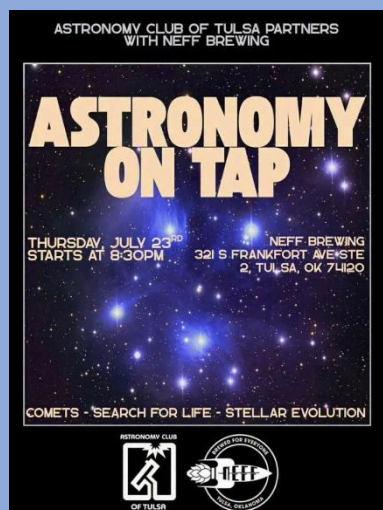
Warning: This activity has proven to be highly addictive.

Clear skies to all – John Moore

August Astronomy Club Activities

Our Astronomy Club has been busy sharing our love of the starry sky on August's warm summer evenings. July 23rd found our President Jonathan shared a presentation for *"Astronomy on Tap"* in central Tulsa at Neff Brewing. On our August 7th Guest Night club members shared their telescopes with 60 to 70 eager guests. On Weds August 12 about 40 of our members stayed into the wee hours of morning enjoying the Perseid Meteor shower. Then many returned on August 14 for our regularly scheduled Members Night. Another large group of the public turned out for telescope viewing in Hunter Park on August 21st. Many Tulsans will be "Staring at the Full Moon" from their homes for the Lunar Eclipse on Thursday August 27.

(Hope the evening doesn't elicit stories of Werewolf's howling at the moon!)



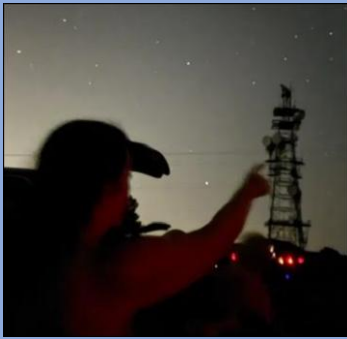
On Thursday July 23 our president Jonathan did the first *"Astronomy on Tap"* event at Neff Brewing in downtown Tulsa. He was assisted by Scott, Kit, Bob, Judy, Brad & wife, Gibson, Skip, Don, Alisha, and Jennifer. About 75 people enjoyed Jonathan's presentation indoors. People also enjoyed seeing a waxing gibbous moon over the downtown buildings. Images from the Seestar telescopes were also a hit.



At our August 7th Observatory Guest Night many guests enjoyed a laser guided tour of the stars and constellations. We also saw many satellites drifting overhead. Jerry Cassity and others had long lines at their telescopes viewing various celestial objects.



PERSEID METEOR Watch Night - There was lots of enjoyment pointing out Perseid Meteors and several bright sporadic meteors on the night of August 12-13. Some of the group stayed until the dawn twilight washed out the stars. Eagle Eyed Kacy Luker counted 144 meteors. Several posted their counts on the board in the classroom.



METEOR COUNT					
NAME	COUNT				
Kit B.	12:30am	274	still flying	2:20 51	3:43 163
KACYL		144		5:56 AM	
RAYA		55		2:59 AM	
BRAD		28	3 AM		
Alisha Bratt		41	counting		
DAVID STINE		58	counting		
Cathy G		12		1:45 AM	
Scott Bratt		83		5:55 AM	

On August 21st, 60 to 70 people showed up for our Telescope Viewing Night at Hunter Park in south Tulsa. In addition to the 11 telescopes our members had set up, 3 guests brought their own telescopes. This is a good opportunity for new telescope owners to learn how to better use their telescopes.



"Bringing Stars to the Eyes of many New Generations of Tulsans"

Treasurer Report

Cathy Grounds



As of August 17, 2026, we have **170** members with **48** new members this year. Please welcome our **14** newest members, Kimberly Butler, Melvyn Washington, Attonia Sarch, Carmen Been, Laura Gordon, Kaitlyn Stacey, Lynn Newman, Otis Fraser, Katie Hickey, Michelle Sullivan, Melissa Huerta Arellano, Dalton Johnson, J.D. Blackwell, and Oliver Jackson.

Since our August newsletter **54** people have sent email contacts via our website
We now have 7,000 FACEBOOK followers

FAQ: How do I know when to pay my dues? You will receive a notice by email when it is time to renew your membership. Look for it on or around the 1st of the month in which your membership expires. If you are not sure just check with the treasurer.

Don't forget these easy methods to Join or Renew your membership:

<https://www.astrotulsa.com/join> – see the “join” tab at the upper right

1. PayPal (click “join/renew” on the website) and follow the prompts, there is small fee.
2. Mail in a check or money order to
Astronomy Club of Tulsa, PO Box 470611, Tulsa, OK 74147.
3. Direct your bank's bill pay service to send payment to our PO Box address above.
4. Pay cash at any club event or swipe a credit card (there is roughly a 3% service charge).

As always if you have any questions or concerns or if your email, phone, or mailing address has changed please email me at: AstroTulsa.Tres@gmail.com

Membership rates for 2025-2026 are as follows: All include an Astronomical League Membership and you will receive their magazine *The Reflector* each quarter.

Adults: **\$50 per year**

Sr Adult: **\$40 per year** (65 or older).

Students: **\$40 per year**

Additional Family membership: **\$30 including voting rights.**

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- You can see subscription info on the “Join” tab at www.astrotulsa.com.

You can get a discount rate as an Astronomy Club member.

However, you will need to do so directly using their discount rate web links.

Both have options for DIGITAL as well as PRINT subscriptions.

To learn about [Sky and Telescope magazine](#) see their home page

Digital \$ 37.05 Print & Digital \$ 45.75 includes a \$ 10 club discount

Use this [Sky & Telescope Subscription Link](#)

To learn about [Astronomy magazine](#) see their home page

Use this [Astronomy Subscription Link](#) Digital \$ 39.95 Print & Digital \$ 49.95 no club discount

**You are invited to join us to learn more about
Astronomy and view the wonderful sights in the night sky.**

Check the EVENTS section at <https://www.astrotulsa.com/>



ASTRONOMY CLUB OBSERVATORY

Located on a hilltop about 25 miles SW of Tulsa
Features: classroom, restroom, dome with 14-inch telescope
and an acre to set up your telescopes.

Weather permitting, we host two types of observing nights.

GUEST OBSERVING NIGHT – RSVP requested

This event is open to our Guests – both individuals and
families as well as our regular members. Several of our club
members set up telescopes for public viewing.

* Groups need to make separate arrangements.

MEMBERS OBSERVING NIGHT usually on a Friday near new moon

Reserved for club members and their families to allow them to pursue observing projects.
The Observatory is ONLY OPEN for SCHEDULED EVENTS.

Check the EVENTS section at <https://www.astrotulsa.com/>

Follow our map directions DO NOT USE GPS

Two Options for travel to the observatory

MOSTLY PAVED ROADS – Hwy 75 to 201st St S – through Mounds OK

Most **DIRECT ROUTE** – Hwy 75 to 241st St S – some coarse gravel & dirt roads



Our Friday evening in town club meetings will resume this Fall.
Meetings are free and open to both members and guests.

Specific Dates will be announced later

We will be meeting at the Tulsa Air & Space Museum Planetarium

Located at [3624 N 74th East Ave, Tulsa, OK 74115](#)

On the road a bit east of the entrance to the Tulsa Zoo

The [Tulsa Air & Space Museum](#) hosts many indoor and outdoor exhibits and events
commemorating Tulsa's rich history in Air and Space.

Check out the schedule of stunning full dome shows at the James E. Bertelsmeyer
Planetarium. Use this link for [Show Times and Tickets](#)

ASTRONOMY CLUB OFFICERS:

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Use the club [CONTACT PAGE](#)
To Send a Message to any of the
officers or board members
or click the CONTACT tab
on the top of our website

BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

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GIBSON BRASEL
SCOTT BRATT
JERRY CASSITY
BRYAN KYLE
JOHN LAND
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TIM GILLILAND & DON BRADFORD

NIGHT SKY NETWORK – SCOTT BRATT



Scott Bratt loved this T-Shirt logo

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