

Cache Valley Clear Skies

The Journal of the Cache Valley Astronomical Society



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www.cvas-utah.org

Meeting Announcement

Our annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at 7:30pm at the Physics Conference Room (room 244) in the Science Engineering Research (SER) building directly east of the library.

Video Astronomy Star Party

Blaine Dickey has invited club members to his observatory Friday night at 8:30pm (Sep 12th – which is tonight by the time you see this newsletter). Blaine has purchased a MallinCam Jr. Pro integrating video camera which he has connected to his 12 inch Meade SCT. This allows him to display real-time images of planets and deep sky objects on a giant monitor.

It should be a lot of fun. Please RSVP Blaine at brdickey@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

His address is: 235 East Center Street, Millville, UT.

From the President's Desk

Since July 31 I have been recovering from a heart by-pass surgery. I am happy that medical science has progressed to provide this procedure, but it sure has put me out of action when it comes to my hobby of astronomy. I haven't been doing any observing and I sure have missed it. My last observation was

on July 27th, I spent the evening do some astrophotography. Then things fell apart July 29th and the rest is history. But I am feeling better and plan to "get under the stars soon."

September is a great transition month. The Autumnal Equinox takes place on September 22 at 8:29 pm MDT when the Sun crosses the equator into the southern hemisphere.

The Full (Harvest) moon was on Sept 8th, Last quarter moon on September 15th, and the New Moon on September 24th.

Mercury is buried in the WSW twilight and hard to see.

Venus is low in the east dawn twilight.

Mars is low in the west evening sky.

Jupiter is low in the morning sky

Saturn is low in the WSW evening twilight

Uranus rises in the evening in Pisces and retrogrades
Neptune retrogrades in Aquarius and is visible most of the night.

If you want a great web-site that provides lots of information for those of us here in Utah, check out In-The-Sky.org. This site contains astronomical news, interactive charts, a satellite finder, astronomy guides, ephemeris, links, map of constellations, star atlas, Making a planisphere and astrolabe and more. Have you been watching Comet Jacques C/2014 E2. This month it is found in Cygnus, Vulpecula, and Sagitta. It should be visible in small and medium scopes around magnitude 8 or 9. Send me some email if you get a chance to observe it. It was discovered in March, 2014.

If you are looking for some interesting DSO's try these:

M31 galaxy in Andromeda, Double Cluster in Perseus NGC 869 and NGC 884, M8 the Lagoon Nebula in Sagittarius, M15 a globular cluster with a planetary nebula in Pegasus, M 13 the best globular cluster in the northern skies in Hercules, NGC 7009 the Saturn Nebula in Aquarius, this needs at least an 8 inch scope, NGC 7293 the Helix Nebula in Aquarius, M 51 the Whirlpool Galaxy in Canes Venatici, M 57 the Ring Nebula in Lyra, M 20 the Trifid Nebula in Sagittarius, M17 the Omega Nebula in Sagittarius, M 11 the Wild Duck Cluster in Scutum, M 16 the Eagle Nebula in Serpens, M33 a face on galaxy in Triangulum and M 27 the Dumbbell Nebula in Vulpecula.

If you have any other DSO's that are your favorites send me an email.

There are also a few really nice double stars: 61 Cygni at magnitudes 5.2 & 6.1 with a 28" separation. Gamma Delphini at magnitudes 4.3 and 5.2. Albireo in Cygnus, with blue and gold contrasting colors separated by 34", Gamma Arietis and impressive double blue/white separated by 7.8", and Gamma Andromeda and attractive pair a bright orange star with a mag 5 blue companion separated by 9.8". Our September General Meeting will be held on September 17th at 7:30pm at the USU Science and Eng building, room 244. We hope to have a good turn-out. According to our Constitution we need to have an election of Officers. I hope this won't scare you away. It takes work and planning to keep a club like this functioning. It really helps to have help from everyone. If we are to make this club successful we need more than just a few "core" members to be active. Your support of our club/activities is greatly appreciated. Our new Dues

year also begins in September. We hope you can support us with your dues.

After our nominations Tom will give a short presentation of his summer astrophotography sessions. I tried to take as many images of challenging deep sky objects as I could to see what my six inch refractor and my 11 inch reflector could accomplish with my Canon T3i.

We will give time to anyone to summarize their summer astronomy experiences and give us input as to what types of topics you would like to have as we move into fall and winter. Our meeting in October will feature Blaine Dickey who will give us a report on his MallinCam Video camera. This is an exciting new product and we are looking forward to Blaine's presentation in October.

Finally our coming star parties.

September 19th at Mt Logan Park in Logan

September 27th a Sun party at the Logan Public Library

October 3 at Mt. Logan Park in Logan

Clear skies everyone...see you at our meeting Sept 17.

Tom Westre



Tom took this picture with his Canon T3i on a tripod looking west on Aug 31. The Moon, Mars and Saturn formed a perfect triangle.

Spotlight on Aquila

This is a great time of year to observe objects in Aquila (the Eagle) because it is high overhead during early evening. The brightest star in Aquila is Altair which is a member of the summer triangle.

Aquila doesn't contain any Messier objects or major showcase objects but it is the home to many planetary nebulae, dark nebulae and some fine double stars. To see the dark nebulae you really do need to observe from a dark sky location.

Here is a sampling of some objects worth hunting down in Aquila:

Object	R.A.	Dec.
LDN 582 (Dark Nebula)	18h52.6m	-01°56'
Barnard 127 (Dark Nebula)	19h01.6m	-05°28'
Barnard 129 (Dark Nebula)	19h02.1m	-05°19'
Barnard 130 (Dark Nebula)	19h01.9m	-05°34'
NGC 6804 (Planetary Nebula)	19h31.6m	+09°13'
NGC 6751 (Planetary Nebula)	19h05.9m	-06°00'
Barnard 133 (Dark Nebula)	19h06.1m	-06°50'
NGC 6778 (Planetary Nebula)	19h18.4m	-01°36'
NGC 6781 (Planetary Nebula)	19h18.4m	+06°33'
NGC 6790 (Planetary Nebula)	19h32.2m	+01°31'
Barnard 142 (Dark Nebula)	19h41.0m	+10°31'
Barnard 142 (Dark Nebula)	19h41.4m	+11°01'
15 Aql (Double star)	19h05.0m	-04°02'
57 Aql (Double star)	19h54.6m	-08°14'

CVAS Minutes – July 2014

There was no meeting in August.

Upcoming Star Parties

- 19 Sep Star Party at Mt Logan Park
- 27 Sep Solar Party at Logan Library
(11am – 1pm)
- 3 Oct Star Party at Mt Logan Park

Upcoming Events

- 21 Sep-6 Oct The zodiacal light is visible 120 to 80 minutes before sunrise.
- 22 Sep Autumn begins
- 24 Sep New Moon
- 8 Oct Total Lunar Eclipse
 - 03:18 am Partial Eclipse Begins
 - 04:27 am Totality Begins
 - 04:55 am Maximum Eclipse
 - 05:22 am Totality Ends
 - 06:32 am Partial Eclipse Ends
- 23 Oct Partial Solar Eclipse
 - 03:00 pm Start (approximate)
 - 04:25 pm Max eclipse (approx.)
 - 05:50 pm End (approximate)
 About 50% of the sun will be obscured at maximum eclipse