# SJAA EPHEMERIS

## Glacier Point Star Party

Barry Sorensen

I attended the SJAA public star party at Yosemite's Glacier Point, July 5-6, 2002. This was a first for me, since I am fairly new to the hobby. I purchased my first scope (NexStar 11 GPS) 7 months ago; and other than Henry Coe park I hadn't ever been to anything resembling a dark site.

The first night was fabulous: extremely dark sky, very clear; gazillions of stars. Seeing was excellent. I was able to split the double-double (epsilon lyrae) cleanly at low magnifications, and even at 295X both pairs were in the field of view with significant gaps in each pair. I also got better views of galaxies (M82, M51, M31) than I had ever gotten before — especially M31, which was very bright. The ring, dumbell and swan nebulae were also great views, even without a filter.

This was the first time I'd ever actually seen the Milky Way. It looked like a large, bright white cloud (with black rifts) extending from horizon to horizon. I felt as though I could have just sat there all night gazing at the sky without the need of binoculars or scope. In fact, I did that for quite a while.

I stayed up until about 3 a.m. the first night and quit when the crescent moon began to rise. When I finished packing up, there were only about three people left: Morris and Jane Houston Jones, and Mike Koop. They seemed to be having a lot of fun finding objects in their big scopes.

During the daytime I drove down to the valley floor, got a hamburger at Yosemite Village, and then drove to a picnic spot below El Portal to do some fishing. I caught and released a nice

*Continued on next page*


*The 2002 crew at the Yosemite Glacier Point star party. Group photo taken by a helpful tourist.*

## SJAA Activities Calendar

Jim Van Nuland

**August**

**1** ATM Class XII — Houge Park, 7:30 p.m.
**2** Astronomy class VIII
**2** Houge Park star party. Sunset 8:14 p.m., 33% moon rises 1:22 a.m.
**3** Deep-Sky weekend. Sunset 8:10 p.m., 24% moon rises 2:00 a.m..
**10** Deep-Sky weekend. Sunset 8:04 p.m., 8% moon sets 9:48 p.m.
**10** Fremont Peak Star-B-Que
**16** Houge Park star party. Sunset 7:58 p.m., 69% moon sets 1:19 a.m.
**17** ATM Class XIII — Houge Park, 7:30 p.m.
**24** **General Meeting**: Juanita Ryan, Antarctica Meteor Trip
**29** ATM Class XIII — Houge Park, 7:30 p.m.
**30** Astronomy Class IX —Houge Park, 7:30 p.m.
**30** Houge Park star party. Sunset 7:39 p.m., 50% moon rises 11:54 a.m.

**August (continued)**

**31** Deep-Sky weekend.

**September**

**7** Deep sky Weekend. Sunset 7:26 p.m., 2% moon sets 8:17 p.m.
**13** Houge Park star party. Sunset 7:18 p.m., 55% moon sets 0:03 a.m.
**14** ATM Class XVI — Houge Park, 7:30 p.m.
**21** **General Meeting**: Slide and Equipment night
**26** ATM Class XVII. Houge Park, 7:30 p.m.
**27** Astronomy Class X
**27** Houge Park star party. Sunset 6:57 p.m., 65% moon rise 10:31 p.m.
**28** Short Deep sky Weekend. Sunset 6:54 p.m., 56% moon rise 11:15 p.m.

**October Meeting**: Bro. Guy Consolmagno, Vatican Observatory

**24 Hour News and Information Hotline: (408) 559-1221**
**www.sjaa.net**


**Volume 13 Number 8 Official Publication of the San Jose Astronomical Association, August 2002**

## *Glacier Point Star Party*

*Continued from previous page*

rainbow trout and then headed back up to Glacier Point.

The second night was quite cloudy, and there were some noisy teenagers chatting and giggling nearby. I got discouraged and packed up at midnight. Of course, as soon as I finished loading my van the sky cleared up completely — and the teenagers had gone. But I was tired, so it was a good thing that I quit early.

SJAA shared the two nights with the Central Valley astronomers (Fresno and Merced), so there were quite a few scopes present — most of them SCTs and reflectors. They had some large dobs down on Aperture Row — the lowest tier of the rocky amphitheatre. The biggest scope was a 24-inch monster that arrived in its own trailer. Reminded me of an artillery wagon, but it also could have been mistaken for a section of storm drain pipe. I got to peek through it a couple of times and was immediately afflicted with aperture fever. The objects were significantly brighter and more detailed than through my own scope.

Mike Koop had a large dob there (one of the club's loaner scopes) and showed me an impressive view of the swan nebula. Morris Jones let me take a look at B86 (a dark object) through his big dob. Other than that, I pretty much stuck to my own scope and didn't mooch many views elsewhere.

The group campsite was overcrowded when I arrived, with no room for any more tents and/or parking. I was planning to sleep in my minivan anyway (my loud snoring would have been intolerable to the other campers), but since there was no more room in any of the bear boxes for my food I decided to sleep in the Glacier Point parking lot. There are several bear boxes available there for use by hikers, so my food storage problem was solved.

***"Reminded me of an artillery wagon, but it also could have been mistaken for a section of storm drain pipe.***

Speaking of bears, I happened upon a couple of black bears in the Glacier Point parking lot at about 5:30 a.m. on the second morning, when I was returning from the restroom. Luckily, the first one was about 120 yards away when I saw him (a big one), and I was able to walk back to the car before he noticed me. I didn't see the second bear (it was on the upper level but pretty close to where I was parked) until I drove past it on the way out of the parking lot. It was seated on its haunches, eating something — hopefully no astronomers are missing...

On the way home I stopped and fished for a little while again, hoping to take a couple of trout home for the wife. But I ended up going swimming instead (thanks to a very slippery rock), so I changed clothes, called it a quits and headed home.

In summary, it was a very good experience and the views were fantastic. I'm definitely planning to attend again next year. But I'll be careful where I park at night and will wait until daylight to go to the restroom.

— *Barry Sorensen*, bds00@amdahl.com

*The culmination of observing preparations — Pres. Mike Koop and VP Bob Havner check the collimation on the new 17" club loaner scope donated by Jack Zeiders.*

*Michael Dajewski brought loaner #28.*

*Bob Brauer found Pluto in his 8-inch.*

*Hsin Huang found Ursa Major.*

*Jane Houston Jones explains newtonian optics.*

## Changes at Fremont Peak

Rick Morales

You may be seeing improvements to Fremont Peak State Park in the coming months. First, as you enter the park you will find some new pavement at the entrance and a large turn around area for people who arrive on the mountain too late to get through the new gate after closing hours. Yes, you read it correctly, a gate. It may or may not actually be closed and locked after dark but the possibility does exist that access to the park may be restricted. What will determine when and if access is restricted depends on staffing of the park. The State Park System is suffering through staff shortages and closing and opening the gate requires the presence of sufficient park staff. In addition to the turn around area and the gate, the entrance will make a definite statement that you have arrived at Fremont Peak State Park.

At the end of May the Park System will have chosen a contractor to begin construction work around the shop area and the observatory. Improvements will include new paving around the shop, a fence to screen the residence from the shop and define the fact that it is a residence and not just part of the shop, a pedestrian path to the observatory from the shop, an extension of the existing gravel road to include a loop around the observatory which will be supported by a three foot high retaining wall, a group activity area with wide terraced steps within the loop, eight 10x10 foot telescope pads with ac outlets across the road from the observatory, handrails and posts with subtle lighting which will be controlled by dimmer switches located inside the observatory, and other imrovements designed to make the observatory area a more desireable place for astronomers to gather.

Oh, yes, one more thing. The Park System is going to eliminate four trees from the area. One is a little tiny but old oak. Three are fairly young, big and healthy Coulter Pines. Yes, you know the ones.

***The Park System is going to eliminate four trees from the area .... Yes, you know the ones.***

All in all, I am looking forward to the improvments to Fremont Peak State Park. There has been discussion for years regarding things that could be done to make the park a better place for astronomy and the Park System folk have been listening. Funds have finally been obtained from Volunteer Enhancement Funds for the project. The project engineer, Joan Carpenter, was assigned the task of getting the project out to bid before the funding went away. There was little time for public input. The FPOA was informed of the project shortly before it went to bid and after the design was put on paper. The design doesn't please everyone but there will never be a project that will please everyone. I, for one, think the construction project will benefit the park, the observatory and all the people who will visit the park and who enjoy astronomy. We may suffer from the inconvinience of the actual construction process this summer but, in the end, it will be well worth it.

— *Rick Morales*, oreosfam@hollinet.com

*[Editors update: Construction is expected to have begun by the time this reaches you, and could possibly be completed by Star-B-Que in August.]*

## FPOA Star-B-Que August 10

The FPOA Star-B-Que on August 10 is a fun event for the whole family! The barbeque and potluck begins around 5:00 p.m. behind the ranger's house (near the observatory), with games and door prizes to follow. Please bring a dessert or salad or your favorite dish you would like to share. We will provide hamburgers and fixings, soft drinks and utensils.

After that, Alex Filippenko, Professor of Astronomy at U. C. Berkeley will present his talk entitled: *Einstein's Biggest Blunder? The Case for Cosmic "Antigravity."*

The Star-B-Que is a great way to meet other amateur astronomers and talk to members of other astronomy clubs. Activities for kids include "Invent an asterism" and "Make your own comet" (with dry ice), with cool "constellation" prizes for the best or most interesting of both.

For more information visit the FPOA website: http://www.fpoa.net. RSVP before August 10 by calling (831) 623-2465 or email starbq@fpoa.net.

## Directions to Houge Park

Houge (rhymes with "Yogi") Park is in San Jose, near Campbell and Los Gatos. From Hwy. 17, take the Camden Avenue exit. Go east 0.4 miles, and turn right at the light, onto Bascom Avenue. At the next light, turn left onto Woodard Road. At the first stop sign, turn right onto Twilight Drive. Go three blocks, cross Sunrise Drive, then turn left into the park.

From Hwy. 85, take the Bascom Avenue exit. Go north, and turn right at the first traffic light, onto White Oaks Road. At the first stop sign, turn left onto Twilight Drive. You will now be passing the park. Turn right at the first driveway, into the parking lot.

Between the parking lot and tennis courts is a strip of grass where public star parties are held. The meeting hall is directly ahead (south) of the parking lot. There are restrooms on the other side of the the hall.

For directions to observing sites commonly used by SJAA members, visit the SJAA web site: http://www.sjaa.net/directions.html.

*Mooning*

## Timocharis

Dave North

Some of you may have noticed my website domain, timocharis.com, and probably wondered "why that name?"

There are a lot of reasons, one of which is it's ten letters long. But we'll get to that.

The most important thing about it is: it's a crater on the Moon. About medium sized, and prior to my adoption of the name, not usually the object of much attention.

Okay, it's not my fault that it's much more well-known now — that credit goes to Michael Light, who for some reason chose a lunar orbiter photo of Timocharis (the crater) to transform into one of the most beautiful selenophotographic portraits ever published. You can see it in his outstanding *Full Moon*, which does not require any particular familiarity or affinity with the Moon to appreciate.

Should you wish to look for yourself, it's the prominent crater in southeastern Mare Imbrium. Very well-formed and relatively fresh, so you can study the terraces on its walls in good seeing.

Still, I'm embarrassed to say, when I google "timocharis" the first two references are to my web pages, and not the ancient astronomer for whom the crater was named (so maybe I can claim some of the credit for the fame after all! Oh, my home page is only the second reference: the first is the page about my 12.5-inch telescope, probably because of the link from Ray Cash's excellent website on dobs of all sorts — http://members.aol.com/raycash/sidewalk.htm).

Like a lot of dead people, he was Greek. Around 300-290 b.c. or so, he was the prime mover in creating the first star catalog. Ever. (He got some help from Aristillus, but it's generally considered his baby.)

That appealed to me a lot. It's one thing to think up all manner of clever things, but it's another to have the sense to write them down. In his case, all the stars he could see, plotted as accurately as he could.

I'm sure at the time this seemed silly and maybe even wasteful, though it's hard to say: those old Greeks were a lot more inquisitive than we seem to be, generally, so maybe it just made sense at the time.

It turned out to be pretty important, though he didn't live to see why: about 150 years later, Hipparchus decided to "check his work" and determined that the longitude of the stars had changed! This led to his discovery of the precession of the equinoxes, which was critical in developing the science of astronomy.

So the most important thing Timocharis did was make notes about everything he saw, allowing others to use the records to develop science further.

At the time I adopted the name, I was doing a whole lot of that kind of thing, certainly without the same degree of effect, but we emulate those we admire, not those we equal.

But wait, there's more! This guy had two firsts (or three, if you like irony...) He was the first person to study Mercury; record it as a phenomenon and describe its behavior. Well, sort of. Fact is, he thought it was two different planets (which he named Apollo — near the sun — and Hermes. That, of course, is Mercury if you're Julius Caesar. Eventually somebody noticed they were the same planet, and settled on the Hermes name.)

For obscure reasons, it's believed he committed suicide by starvation. This is just a footnote I found, and I have no idea whether it's accurate. Or if it is, why he might have done such a thing.

I have no similar plans.

So there you have it. There really isn't that much known about the guy, and certainly there have been other, greater astronomers.

But the thing that attracted me to him (other than the fact that I liked the crater) was his "firstness." There were others who wrote on astronomy before him (including Pythagoras) and even Hipparchus was more important (he stuck to the facts more than previous "philosophers").

And that other thing: the ten-letter name.

Fact is, I first started using the name when I was casting about for yet another "handle" for AOL, back when I used to take advantage of all their free CDs.

The maximum allowable string in those days was ten letters, and I considered numbers cheating.

By some oddity, I've managed to hold on to that name since then, only paying for a few months on AOL (and yeah, I still hold it, but don't send any email since I almost never check it).

And that's the story of Timocharis!

Oh yeah ... if you want to see my scope, just google "timocharis".

— *Dave North*, north@znet.com

*Out There*

## Deep Sky August

Mark Wagner

August's warm nights offer backyard and armchair astronomers great incentive to venture out. Nearby Coyote Lake Park is a convenient new observing site, available through the efforts of local amateur astronomer Denny Woolaghan. It takes me 40 minutes from Los Gatos on easy roads. The site offers a large paved surface, good horizons, flush toilets, pay phone, bar-b-ques with picnic benches under large shady oaks overlooking the lake ... a great place to relax and visit with other amateur astronomers while waiting for dark. If amateur astronomy has been limited to your backyard, you'll be amazed at the difference a short drive makes… a great Milky Way greeted us our first time at Coyote. Observing with a group is fun and informative. Check

*Continued on next page*

## *Deep Sky August*

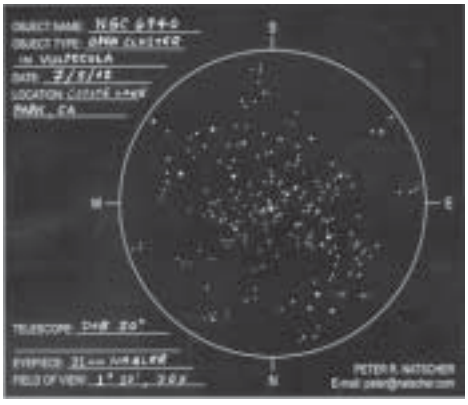
*Continued from previous page*

the mailing list at http://www.observers.org to see when others are going.

This month's objects are between RA 20:00 and 22:00, in good position in the eastern sky for the 2 hours beginning at astronomical dark. I've included a few notes from other local observers, but remember, there are many other objects to see. This is just a small sampling of some showpiece objects and others off the beaten path.

Orient yourself with Gamma Delphini, a fine double star. It is a beautiful sight, a mag 4.5 and 5.5 pair of stars separated by 9.6" just a stone's throw away at 100 light years. Their color is exquisite and will provide a fine prelude to other gems we'll visit. This star is the front of the dolphin, the northern-most star in the little diamond describing the dolphin's body. I see gold and red stars, others see yellow and blue. What do you see?

Move about three and one half degrees east in Delphinus to locate NGC 7006. This globular cluster is around 200,000 light years across our galaxy, making it perhaps most remote globular clusters we can view in the Milky Way. The cluster is a small 2.8 arc second glow at mag 10.6, not resolvable into individual stars although some granularity has been reported. The reward is seeing an object clear across the expanse of our home galaxy. Imagine how this would look if it were only a few tens of thousands of light years distant, like most globulars we see.

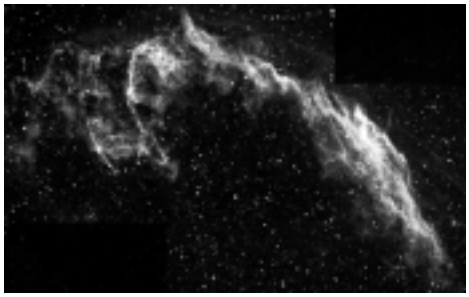


*Open cluster NGC6940 in Vulpecula sketch by Peter Natscher, image by Rob Mackay.*

Still in Delphinus, visit NGC 6905. This exotically named Blue Flash Nebula is 4700 light years away, a mag 11.1 planetary nebula, a slightly out of round oval measuring 47" x 37". At higher power the edges have been described as ropy and ragged, and referred to as a copycat M97 (Owl Nebula). I especially like the name, as planetary nebulae are so transitory ... they appear, and in astronomical terms, are gone in a flash!

Look back to Gamma Delphinus, then let your eye wander just about the same distance back beyond Gamma to the east to the wonderful globular cluster M15. I feel its highly condensed shape is rivaled only by M92 in the northern skies. You'll find M15 a gorgeous sight, resolving nicely in modest apertures. It is visible without optical aid under very dark skies at mag 6.3 and 12.3 arc minutes. That glow took 33,000 years to reach your eye! Within M15 is another target very challenging target, Pease 1, a tiny stellar sized planetary nebula. Do you know anyone who has viewed the tiny planetary? How many objects do you know that have a planetary nebula in them that you can observe?

While at Coyote Lake treat yourself to a view of the Veil Nebula as this object performs much better out of the city. It is a supernova remnant in Cygnus, located at and near the star 52 Cygni. Local observer Derek Stonich writes "NGC 6992 looked like a piece of yarn had been laid strung the stars. It was thick and appeared to have depth. This object was amazing, it seemed possible to look into it." There are several parts to this object, and it is large, as large as the full moon. Use an Oxygen III (OIII) or Ultra High Contrast (UHC) filter to enhance the view. For a challenge, after looking at the two brighter sections… hunt down Pickering's Wisp… a small triangular knot glowing almost centered between the two other sections. The Veil is sort of a



*Supernova Remnant NGC6992 "The Veil" by Ray Gralak.*

"bow shock" expanding away from the cataclysmic star that created this delicate yet awesome view.

Next, scoot your scope over two and one half degrees to the south southwest crossing into Vulpecula to the fine open cluster NGC 6940. This rich cluster is the size of our full moon and glows at mag 6.3. You'll remember this position easily, as naked-eye stars 39 Cygni (mag 4.3) and 41 Cygni (mag 4.1) point to it.

Our last object is NGC 7009, the famous Saturn Nebula, which is a fine example of planetary nebulae. Look at Capricornus and think of its shape as a bikini swimsuit bottom. Move above the swimsuit for the "bellybutton"… the mag 4.5 star 13-Aquarii. Move your scope a degree west and you'll see a small green ball. That's it! Bump up the magnification and try to see the ansae… the extensions that give the object its name. Sacramento observer Randy Muller writes "The blue-green color of this object is very intense. Using averted vision, the object was relatively large and bright gray. Using direct vision, it became very small and intensely blue-green. There seemed to be some mottling in the disk, and it was definitely very much brighter in the center than at the edges."

Next month I'll describe another popular observing location and a selection of objects between right ascension 22:00 and 24:00. There is a lot to see in the deep sky, but you don't know if you don't go… so get out there! Don't cheat yourself of one of the best 40 minute drives you'll make this month!

— *Mark Wagner*,
mgw@resource-intl.com

# A Letter from the President of the ASP

Alex Filippenko

Let me tell you a personal story about my introduction to the world of astronomy. As a kid, I had always been a science buff, playing at home with microscopes, magnets, and various gadgets. The snippets of astronomy that I heard in grade school and junior high were fascinating, and I yearned to learn more. So it was natural that I received a 6-cm refractor as a gift from my parents in December 1972, when I was a freshman in high school.

I still remember my first night with that telescope, nearly 30 years ago, as though it were only yesterday. Pointing toward a bright star, I was rewarded with a much brighter view, though of course it still looked like a tiny point of light with no details. A second bright star looked about the same, and the thrill was beginning to wane. I knew, though, that to find out where the "good stuff" is, I would have to consult more experienced amateur astronomers. So, I decided to have a quick look at a third bright star before giving up for the night. As I let go of the telescope and peered through the eyepiece, waiting for the jiggling to subside, I suddenly realized that I was viewing the planet Saturn, with its glorious set of rings! I was dazzled — the sight knocked my socks off! It didn't matter that millions of people had seen Saturn before; that night, in my mind, I had "discovered" Saturn on my own, and the amateur astronomy bug bit me hard... really hard.

I promptly joined the Santa Barbara Astronomy Club and was inundated with helpful observing advice, unbridled enthusiasm and camaraderie, great views of objects through telescopes much larger than mine, and informative presentations at the monthly meetings. I learned so much from my amateur astronomy buddies — it was incredible. And they showed the same love for explaining the wonders of the heavens to laypersons during public star parties and other events. I personally witnessed many people enthralled, inspired, and awed by what they saw and heard, the majesty of the Universe grandly displayed before them. It became clear to me that amateur astronomers were highly effective in bringing science to the public.

Now, three decades later, I am the President of the non-profit Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP), a main goal of which is the public dissemination of astronomical knowledge. I would not be in this fortunate position without my early exposure to amateur astronomy. Like you, we at the ASP want to explore the cosmos, and also excite and inform the general public about astronomy. YOU can help us by becoming a member of the ASP and thus supporting our educational activities — including Project ASTRO (a national astronomy education program), The Teachers' Newsletter, an extensive catalog of astronomy-related products for educators and the public (members get a 10% discount), K-12 teachers' workshops, public lectures, and much more. Also, you'll receive our bimonthly Mercury magazine with insightful articles and other items. Please go to our web site at www.astrosociety.org and consider joining! Annual dues are only $48 for individuals ($35 for students) and $75 for families.

Let me also take this opportunity to invite you to attend the ASP's public symposium, co-sponsored by the Astronomical Association of Northern California (AANC) http://www.aanc-astronomy.org/, on September 29, in Pimentel Hall at the UC Berkeley campus. It is entitled *The Cosmic Thread: From Stars to Life,* and features a stellar list of speakers (Seth Shostak, Geoff Marcy, Jill Tarter, David Morrison, and others). You can register at the ASP web site: $35 for the general public, $30 for ASP members, and $25 for students. It is certain to be a great event.

Happy viewing!

*— Alex Filippenko, Professor of Astronomy, University Distinguished Teacher, UC Berkeley,*
alex@astro.berkeley.edu

# Celestial Calendar
# August 2002

Richard Stanton

| Lunar Phases: | | Date | Rise | Trans | Set |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| LQ | 03:21 PDT | 01 | 00:21 | 07:05 | 13:58 |
| NM | 12:14 PDT | 08 | 05:59 | 13:21 | 20:36 |
| FQ | 03:12 PDT | 15 | 14:17 | 19:30 | 00:00 |
| FM | 15:29 PDT | 22 | 20:14 | 00:50 | 06:05 |
| LQ | 19:30 PDT | 30 | 23:55 | 06:29 | 13:46 |

| Nearer Planets: | | | | R. A. | Dec. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mercury, 1.14 A.U., Mag. -1.5 | | | | | |
| 07 | 07:40 | 14:23 | 21:04 | 10:15.7 | +12:04 |
| 17 | 08:21 | 14:40 | 20:58 | 11:13.3 | +04:59 |
| 27 | 08:47 | 14:46 | 20:43 | 11:59.1 | -01:36 |
| Venus, 0.72 A.U., Mag. -5.2 | | | | | |
| 07 | 10:02 | 16:04 | 22:06 | 11:59.0 | -00:14 |
| 17 | 10:14 | 16:01 | 21:47 | 12:35.0 | -05:09 |
| 27 | 10:23 | 15:55 | 21:26 | 13:09.1 | -09:52 |
| Mars, 2.67 A.U., Mag. +1.7 | | | | | |
| 07 | 06:19 | 13:19 | 20:18 | 09:14.2 | +17:13 |
| 17 | 06:12 | 13:05 | 19:57 | 09:39.5 | +15:13 |
| 27 | 06:04 | 12:50 | 19:35 | 10:04.2 | +13:05 |
| Jupiter, 6.18 A.U., Mag. -1.9 | | | | | |
| 07 | 05:07 | 12:18 | 19:28 | 08:14.0 | +20:14 |
| 17 | 04:39 | 11:47 | 18:56 | 08:23.1 | +19:45 |
| 27 | 04:10 | 11:17 | 18:24 | 08:31.8 | +19:16 |
| Saturn, 9.54 A.U., Mag. +0.9 | | | | | |
| 07 | 02:27 | 09:44 | 17:02 | 05:40.5 | +22:06 |
| 17 | 01:52 | 09:09 | 16:27 | 05:44.6 | +22:07 |
| 27 | 01:16 | 08:33 | 15:51 | 05:48.1 | +22:08 |

SOL Star Type G2V Intelligent Life in System ?

| Hours of Darkness | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 06:44 | 07 | 06:15 | 13:13 | 20:12 | 09:08.2 | +16:28 |
| 07:13 | 17 | 06:23 | 13:12 | 19:59 | 09:45.9 | +13:28 |
| 07:42 | 27 | 06:32 | 13:09 | 19:46 | 10:22.8 | +10:07 |

| Astronomical Twilight: | | Begin | End |
|---|---|---|---|
| JD 2,452,493 | 07 | 04:35 | 21:51 |
| 503 | 17 | 04:47 | 21:35 |
| 513 | 27 | 05:00 | 21:18 |

Sidereal Time:
Transit Right Ascension at Local Midnight

| | |
|---|---|
| 07 | 00:00 = 19:54 |
| 17 | 00:00 = 20:34 |
| 27 | 00:00 = 21:13 |

Darkest Saturday Night: 10 Aug 2002

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunset | 20:08 |
| Twilight | 21:46 |
| Moon Set | 21:52 |
| Dawn Begin | 04:39 |
| Hours Dark | 06:52 |

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**Publication Statement**
*SJAA Ephemeris*, newsletter of the San Jose Astronomical Association, is published monthly, 12 times a year, January through December.
San Jose Astronomical Association,
P.O. Box 28243
San Jose, CA 95159-8243

**Submit**
Submit articles for publication in the SJAA Ephemeris. Send articles to the editors via e-mail to ephemeris@sjaa.net.

# SJAA Loaner Scope Status

All scopes are available to any SJAA member; contact Mike Koop by email (loaner@sjaa.net) or by phone at work (408) 473-6315 or home (408) 446-0310 (Leave message).

## Available Scopes

These are scopes that are available for immediate loan, stored at other SJAA members homes. If you are interested in borrowing one of these scopes, please contact Mike Koop for a scope pick up at any of the listed SJAA events.

| # Scope | Description | Stored by |
|---|---|---|
| 8 | 14" Dobson | Dana Crom |
| 23 | 6" Newt/P Mount | Wensheng Hua |
| 24 | 60mm Refractor | Al Kestler |
| 26 | 11" Dobson | Tajinder Singh |
| 27 | 13" Dobson | Gene Schmidt |
| 32 | 6" f/7 Dobson | Sandy Mohan |

## Scope Loans

These are scopes that have been recently loaned out. If you are interested in borrowing one of these scopes, you will be placed on the waiting list until the scope becomes available after the due date.

| # Scope | Description | Borrower | Due Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4" Quantum S/C | Hsin I Huang | 7/8/02 |
| 6 | 8" Celestron S/C | Carl Ching | 6/23/02 |
| 7 | 12.5" Dobson | Michael Lagae | 7/19/02 |
| 11 | Orion XT6 Dob | Wai Tuck-Low | 4/27/02 |
| 12 | Orion XT8 Dob | Tod Irwin | 8/17/02 |
| 13 | Orion XT6 Dob | Dennis Hong | 7/5/02 |
| 14 | 8" f/8.5 Dob | John Templeton | 7/5/02 |
| 15 | 8" Dobson | Kirkland Foo | 8/17/02 |
| 16 | Solar Scope | Bob Havner | 8/18/02 |
| 19 | 6" Newt/P Mount | Peter Yoon | 7/27/02 |
| 29 | C8, Astrophotography | Mike Macedo | 8/17/02 |
| 34 | Dynamax 8" S/C | George Wang | 6/30/02 |
| 35 | Meade 8" Equatorial | Richard Savage | 7/28/02 |

## Extended Scope Loans

These are scopes that have had their loan period extended. If you are interested in borrowing one of these scopes, we will contact the current borrower and try to work out a reasonable transfer time for both parties.

| # Scope | Description | Borrower | Due Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4.5" Newt/ P Mount | Annette Reyes | 7/18/02 |
| 2 | 6" f/9 Dob | John Paul De Silva | ? |
| 9 | C-11 Compustar | Paul Barton | Indefinite |
| 10 | Star Spectroscope | Lew Kurtz | 8/23/02 |
| 21 | 10" Dobson | Ralph Seguin | Repair |
| 28 | 13" Dobson | Michael Dajewski | 7/29/02 |
| 33 | 10" Deep Space Explorer | Sandy Mohan | 7/18/02 |

## Waiting List:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4" Quantum S/C | Eric Anderson |
| 8 | 14" Dobson | Doug Hendrix |
| 11 | Orion XT6 Dob | Rajeev Joshi |
| 12 | Orion XT8 Dob | Tajinder Singh |
| 13 | Orion XT6 Dob | Lakshminarasimhan Venkatavaradan |
| 32 | 6" f/7 Dobson | Vinod Nagarajan |

## Loaner Notes

Michael Dajewski is working on updating one of our Coulter Odessey scopes and has purchased a Novak Cell and spider for the scope. Thanke to Michael!

# San Jose Astronomical Association Membership Form

New __ Renewal __
Membership - $15
Junior (younger than 18 years old) - $6
Sky and Telescope - add $30 to membership
(Sky & Tel will not accept multiyear subscriptions)

Make checks payable to “SJAA”

Bring this form to any SJAA Meeting
or send (along with your check) to

San Jose Astronomical Association
P.O. Box 28243
San Jose, CA 95159-8243

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