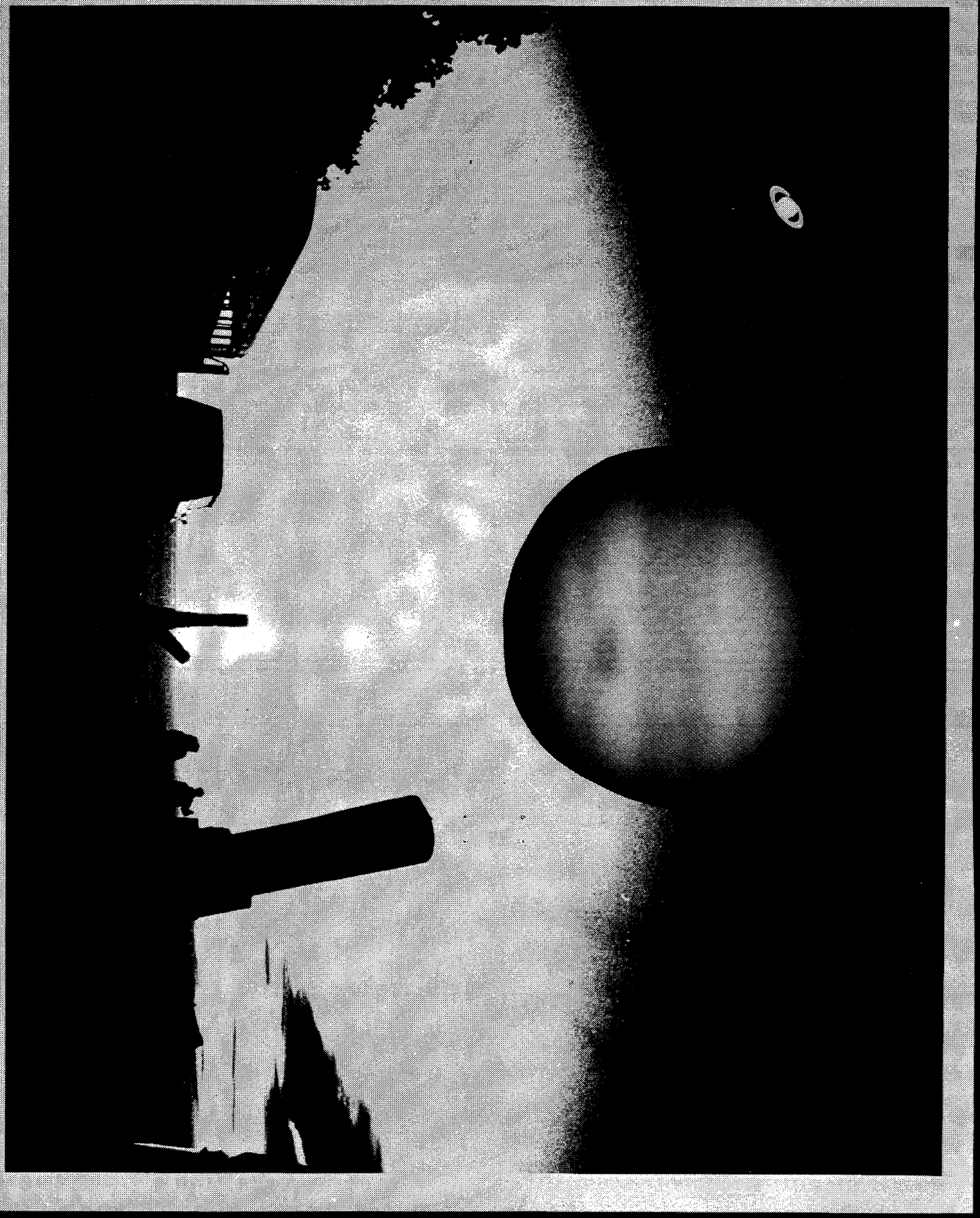

SJAA

OCTOBER '76

Jack Zeiders
Editor
292-0107

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE CLUB :

October 1: Olinder Center 7:30 P.M.

The main occurance at this month's general meeting will be a talk by John Rhodes. His subject will be "How far are the stars."

October 8: John Rhodes' home 8:00 P.M. board meeting

October 23: Skyline site New moon star party

The October star party was listed last month as to be located at Henry Coe State Park. However since we couldn't be certain of when the park will reopen, the Skyline site was chosen. This area was used extensivly in the past by the S.J.A.A. and has an excellent western sky.

November 5: Olinder Center 7:30 P.M.

Themeeting for november should feature a presentation on the Viking mission. The specifics have not been worked out at the time of this writing so I am unable to provide further information.

November 12: Debbie Moore's home 8:00 P.M. board meeting

November 20: El Sereno dusk till dawn

Again we are using the EL sereno Open Space Preserve for a star party. This area has proven itself to be a fine place for amateur astronomy while being near enough for most of us.

You may wish to update your membership list with these additional names of new or returning members.

William McPeak 4563 Grimsby Dr. San Jose Ca. 95130 379-2071

Jim Loos 13680 Rossmere Ct. Saratoga, Ca. 95070 867-1264

J. Emmet Murphy 65 South 9th st.#3 San Jose Ca. 95112 287-6378

George R. Cook 905 Seena Av. Ca. Los Altos 94022 961-1577

John Delaney 2410 Woodland Av. San Jose Ca. 95128 296-8559

Bill Tamblyn 1176 Dresdin Wy. San Jose Ca. 95129 253-2278

Cover photos: John Rhodes & John Gleason

occulting zone

Oct.	PDT	Mag.	CA	PA	Star; Notes
3	7:33:33D	6.2	38s	127	47 Cap
18	3:52:33R	5.5	41s	237	w Leo A.M. Time
26	7:35:47D	8.2	73n	71	
	7:50:23D	9.0	80n	78	
	8:11:57D	7.2	15S	163	Near-graze-- times may be a few min.
	8:20:36R		1S	178	off. See below.
	8:38:01D	7.3	65S	113	
27	8:25:28D	6.9	80S	93	Double-- No sep. available.
28	8:19:16D	8.6	9N	358	May ne difficult.

Mostly single stars this month--none very bright. To best see dim stars near the moon, use medium-high power. Iuse 133X, giving 20' of field. This gets the bright part of the moon out of the field. Do the finding and preliminary focusing with your off eye to keep your good eye dark adapted. The dark limb should be visible for most of these events. Final focusing should be done on the star not part of the moon.

Finding the stars-- if you don't know which way is north in your field, allow the moon or a star to drift through the field-- it always moves west, PA=270. Remember that position angle starts at north and goes CCW in a two-mirror scope, CW in a one or three mirror scope (includes star diagonal). If you turn the diagonal you also rotate the field, so get comfortable first.

Cusp Angle is measured away from the bright limb out into the dark moon, in either direction. 0=cusp, 90=midway between. If you can't find any stars, tell me and I'll try to write better instructions.

TIME may vary up to a minute. Start watching about 15 min. early to get a feel for how fast the moon approaches the star. Average rate is 2 min. of time per minute of arc. The star may hang on the dark limb for several seconds before finally snapping out.

The near-graze on the 26th may occur a few minutes early or late depending on your position. If it disappears late, expect the re-appearance to be early by about double the amount,etc.

Date	Time
Su 3	1:07 AM
Tu 5	10:36 PM
Su 10	9:43 PM
Tu 12	11:21 PM
F 15	0:59 AM
Su 17	10:29 PM
W 20	0:07 AM
F 22	9:36 PM
SU 24	3:22 AM
Su 24	11:14 PM
W 27	0:52 AM
W 27	8:43 PM
Su 31	10:59 PM

On to another kind of peek-a-boo -- the Great Red Spot. Predictions are based on Gerry Rattley's observations as I have been unable to observe it. The spot has shifted about 35 minutes early, so new prediction equations are being developed. Gerry advises that there is a lot of activity on Jupiter currently, so get out and grab a piece of the action.

These times are the evening passages, starting about 90 min. after planet-rise. All are PDT or PST. The time given is for the spot to be central on the planet, so it will be observable about an hour before and after the stated times. The spot moves to the west by it's own length in about 24 minutes, so things change quite rapidly.

Jim Van Nuland