

IO - January 2016

Eugene Astronomical Society
Annual Club Dues \$25
President: Diane Martin 541-554-8570
Secretary: Jerry Olton 541-343-4758
Additional Board members:
Jacob Strandlien, John Loper, Mel Bartels.

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www.eugeneastro.org
EAS is a proud member of:

The Astronomical League
The World's Largest Federation of Amateur Astronomers



Next Meeting Thursday, January 21st Telescope Maintenance and Telescope Workshop

Our January 21st meeting will be our annual telescope workshop, where we invite anyone with a telescope they'd like to tune up or just learn how to use to bring it to us for assistance. This invitation is open to club members as well as the general public, so if you've got a scope that needs help or you need help learning your scope, bring it to the meeting!

We'll also have a talk by Jerry Olton and Mel Bartels about how to maintain your telescope. They'll discuss general maintenance such as collimation, mirror and lens cleaning, bearing surfaces, and even how to bring your scope inside on a cold night without getting a waterfall of dew condensing on it. Questions will be happily answered.

The meeting is at 7:00 on Thursday, January 21st at the Science Factory. People with scopes are encouraged to bring them a little early.



Jerry Olton and Bill Murray open up a Schmidt-Cassegrain

Next First Quarter Friday: January 15th

Our December 18th First Quarter Star Party was a total bust, as was our backup date on Saturday the 19th. Typical for this time of year. Here's hoping for better luck in January.

Our next First Quarter Friday is on January 15th. First Quarter Fridays are laid-back opportunities to do some observing and promote astronomy at the same time. Mark your calendar and bring your scope to the College Hill Reservoir (24th and Lawrence in Eugene) and share the view with whoever shows up. Here's the schedule through 2016. Star parties start at dusk or 6:00, whichever is later.

January 15 (40% lit)	February 12 (25% lit)	March 11th (12.8% lit)
April 15 (70% lit)	May 13 (54% lit)	June 10 (38% lit)
July 8 (23% lit)	August 12 (72% lit)	September 9 (56% lit)
October 7 (39% lit)	November 4 (24% lit)	December 9 (79% lit)

December 17th Meeting Report

Our December 17th meeting was our annual potluck dinner and swap meet. About 20-25 people gathered to enjoy a meal and conversation and look over the items for sale or trade. This was a thin year for equipment, with only a couple small scopes and minimal other gear, so it was mostly a chance for conversation. We all had a good time and wished one another happy holidays before heading back out into the rain.

Dues are Past Due!

EAS membership runs from October thru September. If you haven't paid already, please mail your dues to the Eugene Astronomical Society, PO Box 7264, Springfield, OR 97475. Dues are still the same low \$25 they've been for years. Make your checks payable to Eugene Astronomical Society, or just EAS if your pen is low on ink.

December Observing Report

This calendar shows rainfall amounts for December thru 12/27 a.m. Need we say more?



Astronomical League Sketching Contest

The Astronomical League is hosting a sketching contest this year. If you have a sketch you're especially proud of, enter it in the contest for a chance to win a cash prize. The first place winner will receive \$250 and a plaque recognizing the achievement. The second place winner will receive \$150 and the third place winner will receive \$75.

The work will be evaluated for accuracy, aesthetics, neatness, composition, and the visceral effect imparted on the viewer. All sketches must have been drawn at the eyepiece within the period between March 31, 2015 and March 31, 2016 (the submission deadline).

The contest is only open to Astronomical League members, but you're in luck: all members of the EAS are automatically members of the Astronomical League as well.

For more information, visit: <https://www.astroleague.org/awards/astronomics-sketching-award>



Aristarchus region. © by Cindy Krach



Thank You Storage Junction

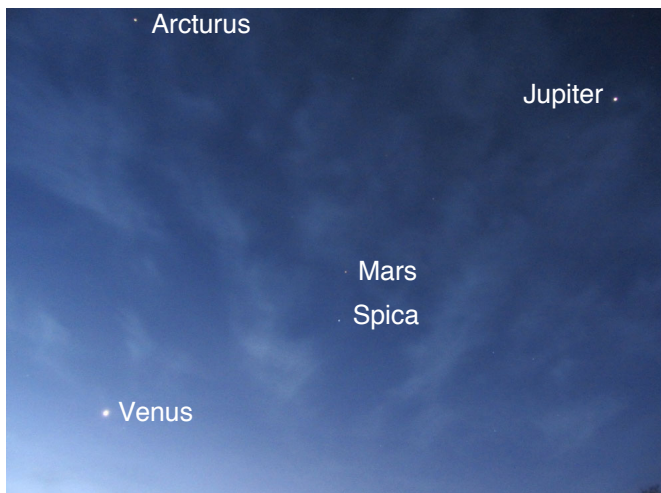
Storage Junction has donated the use of a storage unit for us to hold our loaner telescopes when they're not in use. EAS would like to thank Storage Junction for their generosity and support for our group. Please give them a call if you need a storage space, and tell your friends. Storage Junction is located at 93257 Prairie Road (at the intersection of Hwy 99 and Hwy 36, 3 miles south of Junction City) Phone: 541-998-5177

Celestial Vault Closed for Repairs

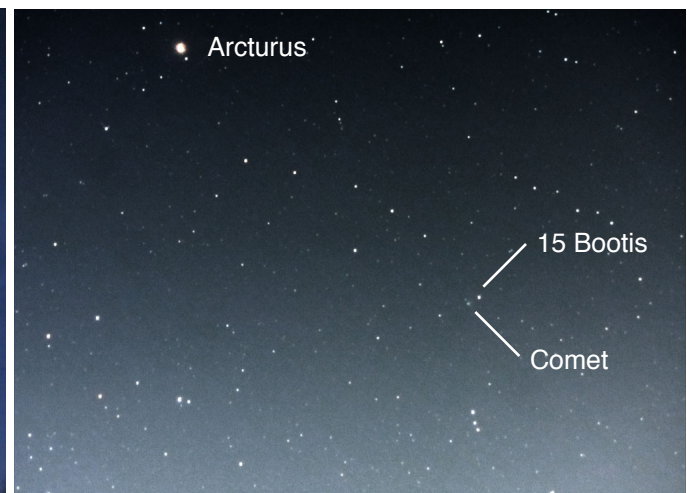
Throughout most of November and virtually all of December the sky has been shrouded while celestial mechanics perform maintenance and updates. Work continues apace, but on a couple of early mornings Alan Gillespie caught a peek through the curtain as the planetary alignments were being fine tuned. Then on Christmas night we were treated to a quick beta test of the entire newly refurbished Cosmos, and several EAS members reported success in observing and even photographing the sights momentarily revealed.

Alan Gillespie caught Comet C/2013 US10 Catalina near Arcturus. The comet was still under construction and sported no visible tail in his photo, but early previews from priveleged sources show the tail developing nicely. New club member Dave Horton and long-time club member Jeff Phillips each caught a shot of the cosmic worklight glowing brightly overhead. Rumor has it that the light will be dimmed gradually in the coming weeks and the curtain will eventually be drawn back to allow observing again.

We should have a great view of the Cosmos after the Grand Opening scheduled for Real Soon Now.



Planets line up the morning of 12/18/15 © by Alan Gillespie



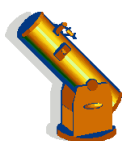
Comet C/2013 US10 Catalina 12/26/15 © by Alan Gillespie



Moon 12/25/15 © by Dave Horton



Moon 12/25/15 © by Jeff Phillips



Observing in January



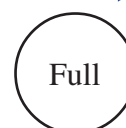
Last Q



New



1st Q



Full

Jan 1, 9:30 PM	Jan 9, 5:30 PM	Jan 16, 3:26 PM	Jan 23, 5:46 PM
Mercury Set: 6:15 PM	Mercury Set: 5:47 PM	Mercury lost in Sun	Mercury Rise: 6:24 AM
Venus Rise: 4:47 AM	Venus Rise: 5:05 AM	Venus Rise: 5:19 AM	Venus Rise: 5:32 AM
Mars Rise: 1:54 AM	Mars Rise: 1:46 AM	Mars Rise: 1:38 AM	Mars Rise: 1:29 AM
Jupiter Rise: 10:46 PM	Jupiter Rise: 10:15 PM	Jupiter Rise: 9:46 PM	Jupiter Rise: 9:17 PM
Saturn Rise: 5:31 AM	Saturn Rise: 5:03 AM	Saturn Rise: 4:39 AM	Saturn Rise: 4:15 AM
Uranus Set: 00:59 AM	Uranus Set: 00:28 AM	Uranus Set: 11:57 PM	Uranus Set: 11:30 PM
Neptune Set: 9:32 PM	Neptune Set: 9:01 PM	Neptune Set: 8:35 PM	Neptune Set: 8:08 PM
Pluto lost in Sun	Pluto lost in Sun	Pluto lost in Sun	Pluto lost in Sun

All times Pacific Daylight Time (March 13 – Nov. 5, 2016 = UT -7 hours) or **Pacific Standard Time (November 1, 2015 – March 12, 2016 = UT -8 hours)**

Date	Moonrise	Moonset	Twilight Begin	Sunrise	Sunset	Twilight End
1/1/2016		11:47	06:03	07:47	16:45	18:29
1/2/2016	00:30	12:15	06:03	07:47	16:46	18:30
1/3/2016	01:28	12:43	06:03	07:47	16:46	18:31
1/4/2016	02:26	13:14	06:03	07:47	16:47	18:32
1/5/2016	03:24	13:49	06:03	07:47	16:48	18:32
1/6/2016	04:23	14:28	06:03	07:47	16:49	18:33
1/7/2016	05:20	15:14	06:03	07:47	16:50	18:34
1/8/2016	06:16	16:05	06:03	07:47	16:52	18:35
1/9/2016	07:08	17:04	06:03	07:47	16:53	18:36
1/10/2016	07:56	18:07	06:03	07:46	16:54	18:37
1/11/2016	08:39	19:15	06:03	07:46	16:55	18:38
1/12/2016	09:19	20:24	06:03	07:46	16:56	18:39
1/13/2016	09:55	21:35	06:02	07:45	16:57	18:40
1/14/2016	10:29	22:46	06:02	07:45	16:58	18:41
1/15/2016	11:02	23:56	06:02	07:44	17:00	18:42
1/16/2016	11:36		06:01	07:44	17:01	18:43
1/17/2016	12:13	01:06	06:01	07:43	17:02	18:44
1/18/2016	12:52	02:15	06:01	07:43	17:03	18:45
1/19/2016	13:36	03:22	06:00	07:42	17:05	18:46
1/20/2016	14:25	04:26	06:00	07:41	17:06	18:48
1/21/2016	15:19	05:25	05:59	07:40	17:07	18:49
1/22/2016	16:17	06:18	05:59	07:40	17:09	18:50
1/23/2016	17:17	07:04	05:58	07:39	17:10	18:51
1/24/2016	18:19	07:45	05:57	07:38	17:11	18:52
1/25/2016	19:20	08:20	05:57	07:37	17:13	18:53
1/26/2016	20:21	08:52	05:56	07:36	17:14	18:54
1/27/2016	21:20	09:21	05:55	07:35	17:15	18:55
1/28/2016	22:18	09:49	05:55	07:34	17:17	18:57
1/29/2016	23:16	10:17	05:54	07:33	17:18	18:58
1/30/2016		10:45	05:53	07:32	17:19	18:59
1/31/2016	00:13	11:14	05:52	07:31	17:21	19:00

All times are for Eugene, Oregon Latitude 44° 3' Longitude 123° 06'

Items of Interest This Month

Jupiter visible at a civilized hour from now until summer.

1/1 early a.m. Comet C/2013 US10 Catalina near Arcturus.

1/2 Moon at apogee (251,206 miles from Earth) at 3:53 a.m. Earth at perihelion (91,403,812 miles from Sun) at 3:00 p.m.

1/3-1/4 Quadrantid meteors peak at midnight. Should be a good year for this shower.

1/5 Latest sunrise of the year.

1/8 & 1/9 early a.m. Venus close to Saturn (0.09° conjunction happens at 8:00 p.m. on the 8th, but they're below the horizon.)

1/15 First Quarter Friday Star Party.

1/15-1/17 Comet Catalina near M101.

1/19 Moon occults Aldebaran 5:14 p.m. PST. Reappearance 6:22 p.m.

End of month: Comet Catalina cruises past Polaris

For ongoing discussion of astronomical topics and impromptu planning of telescope outings, join the EAS mail list at http://eugeneastro.org/mailman/listinfo/general_eugeneastro.org