

IO - August 2002

Eugene Astronomical Society, Annual Club Dues \$19. President and IO editor, Barb Shaw 344-9956, barbshaw@earthlink.net, VP/Program Chair: Rick Kang 683-1381 rkang@efn.org Treasurer: Paul Swadener, 953-0876. School Star Party Coordinator, Sue Moe suemoe@worldnet.att.net. Telescope lending program, Jean Grendler 683-9382, jmgrendler@qwest.net* Website: www.eugeneastro.org

**Io (EYE-oh) is nearest to Jupiter and fastest orbiting of the four "Galilean" moons.*

AUGUST MEETING

Except for special events, we gather the first Monday of each month, at North Eugene High School, Room 319 at the rear of the campus. EAS meetings usually start with space videos and socializing at 6:30, with the official meeting 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

In August we are proud to present Harvard Center for Astrophysics (CfA) researcher, **Dr. Tom Calderwood**. He will speak at 7:00 pm on being an insider on the Chandra X-ray telescope project. See following story. The talk is basic enough for kids to enjoy, yet brimming with new and fascinating information. Come at 6:30 or stay after 9:00 for Q&A time with him.

We will also hear from a member of the Lane County Fair Board. She will present information on issues involving the proposed planetarium at the fairgrounds, possibly getting a bond measure to fund it on the November ballot, and how Eugene may lose the new projector if we can't fund the project.

Instead of a September meeting, we'll have a club potluck barbecue September 9 (the Monday after Labor Day) at 6:30 pm, at Barb Shaw's house, 61 West 34th Avenue, Eugene. Bring dishes to share and your own meat to roast over hot coals.

CALDERWOOD SPEAKS

Our speaker is Dr. Tom Calderwood, a software engineer at the Chandra X-ray Center at Harvard University's Center for Astrophysics. He will talk about the orbiting X-ray telescope, the third in NASA's series of orbiting "great observatories."

"Adventures in Chandra-Land" offers an insider's view of the two years before the satellite was launched, a time of great excitement and anguish.

Calderwood says, "Being an engineer, I won't be saying much about Chandra science, but I will have some good images to show."

Born and raised in Portland, he attended Benson High School and has lived in the Boston area since 1978, when he began studies at MIT.

Look for more about Chandra at their website... <http://chandra.harvard.edu/> A nice selection of Chandra pictures with explanations can be found at "Astronomy Picture of the Day" - <http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html>. Scroll down to the image "archive" link.

WEBSITES TO CHECK

The new EAS website is up, a very attractive and complete site resulting from a most ambitious revamping. Deep thanks to professional webmaster and former club president Dave Cole. He's done a fabulous job, volunteering many hours on the project.

Sue Moe, Rick Kang and Jean Grendler provided direction and feedback during the creation process, an intense week for all involved. We'll do a short demo of the website at the August club meeting. The new address is www.eugeneastro.org

Alan Gillespie says: FYI, Here's a cool link to a weather site with a seeing forecast animation. <http://www.cmc.ec.gc.ca/cmc/htmls/mainpage.html>

You can download a simple program that generates printable sky maps of galaxies, nebulae, the Milky Way, and constellations. It also lets you view stars, the moon, and planets as they appear from any point on Earth. (Shareware, \$20). Works on windows & Mac OS

<http://pages.infinit.net/trottier/astronomica.html>

WILL CLUB DUES RISE?

The executive committee agreed in June to discuss club dues and have members vote on the issue. An increase to \$25 per year, from the current \$19, would help support club activities and expanded our outreach efforts. Any student with current ID will be eligible for \$15 per year membership.

At the August meeting, we hear discussion and will vote on this issue. We suggest that the change start with renewals in October and that anyone renewing early receive membership at the old rate for up to three years, if they prepay in advance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 2, 3,4 - Umpqua Astronomers invites us to their **camp-out star party**, about 15 miles east of Steamboat up the North Umpqua River in a nice meadow with very dark skies. Contact Paul Morgan pmorgan@wmni.net

August 3, Saturday. 6:30 scope set up for a star party at **LaVelle Vineyards**. Free wine and music for volunteers. No people under 21. Winery is at 89697 Sheffler Road, Elmira. Contact Doug at 953-7868.

August 5, 7:00 pm, North Eugene High School, Harvard Center for Astrophysics (CfA) researcher, **Dr. Tom Calderwood**, speaks at EAS meeting.

August 8, Thursday night, **Star Party for Camp Quality**, Deerhorn Road east of Springfield. Contact Paul (953-0876) or Rick (683-1381).

August 8-11, Ochoco Mountains, east of Prineville. **Oregon Star Party**. This is the Big One! Many large scopes. You need to pre-register. All the details at <http://www.oregonstarparty.org/>.

August 10 at PMO, **Friends of Pine Mountain Observatory board meeting** at PMO.

August 10, a small "unofficial" **star party at Crater Lake National Park**, probably at the Rim Village Walkway between the lodge and cafeteria. David Fields (865) 882-4533

August 16, Friday at dusk, EAS **Club Star Party** on College Hill. Park near 24th and Lawrence in South Eugene. Event is atop the reservoir, up about 8 steps. See following story.

September 13, Friday at dusk, EAS **Club Star Party** on College Hill. Park near 24th and Lawrence in South Eugene. Event is atop the reservoir, up about 8 steps. See following story.

September 28, 8:00-10:00 **Mt. Pisgah Arboretum star party**. Bring scopes and enthusiasm to share with the public. Contact Chandra, 747-1504.

CLUB STAR PARTIES

Eugene Astronomical Society will hold two public Friday evening star parties at the College Hill Reservoir, August 16 and September 13. Park on the street near 24th and Lawrence.

Jean Grendler will send out PSA' s and Press Releases, so we should have a good turnout. Preceding the evening viewing we will hold informal telescope help sessions for new members and the general public.

Can you help someone set up their new scope, help someone align their finder? We need several people to assist visitors and also to bring their scopes to share with the public. Members who have borrowed a club scope are expected to come to star parties to share the scope, or to return the scope so it can come to star parties with another member.

Dave Cole has generously volunteered to "chair" these two events and serve as volunteer coordinator. Call Dave to sign up to help -- 484-9000.

Jean, keeper of club scopes, has a few to loan for events. Call her to borrow one. (683-9382)

For information on events, check out our new Eugene Astronomical Society Web page(s) at www.eugeneastro.com Thanks to Dave Cole, our talented volunteer webmaster.

ITEMS FOR SALE

Meade 4.5 inch Newtonian reflector, model DS114, "Saturn" equipped for hookup to digital control, has RA and DEC motors. 3 Eyepieces. \$300 firm. Fred Sieveking, Springfield, 726-5552

Celestron Ultima 8 SCT with Celestron-Byers PEC, Dec Drive, upgraded with all options for viewing or astrophotography. Manual and electronic, easy to use, very stable platform. Cost \$2400 in 1995. Sell for \$1400 Steve Trapp, redsky@peak.org

NEW TREASURER

Sue Moe has volunteered to take over duties of club treasurer. We had no other person come forward, so at the August meeting we'll vote on Sue, skipping corporate campaign contributions, speeches and related foolishness.

