

IO – August 2005

Issue # 2005-08

www.eugeneastro.org

Eugene Astronomical Society, Annual Club Dues \$25, President: AC Illig, Treasurer: Rossco Wright, Secretary Alicia McGraw
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Io (EYE-oh) is nearest to Jupiter and fastest orbiting of the four Galilean moons

EAS is a Proud Member of:

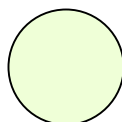
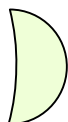
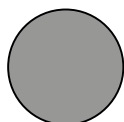


Monday- August 1st MEETING EUGENE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY At The Science Factory Planetarium

The meeting will begin at **7:00 PM** in the Planetarium. Come early and help others learn about their scopes. Those of you, who are new or not sure about your equipment, show up early and some of our members will assist you in understanding your equipment better. If you are planning on getting a scope please come out and ask questions, we're glad to assist you in making a good solid choice to maximize your viewing pleasure.

The Science Factory is at 2300 Leo Harris Parkway, behind Autzen Stadium.

Check EAS WEB site for up to the minute Information



August 4	August 12	August 19	August 26
New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter
Sunset: 8:32 PM	Sunset: 8:20 PM	Sunset: 8:09 PM	Sunset: 7:58 PM
Sunrise 6:03 AM	Sunrise 6:12 AM	Sunrise 6:20 AM	Sunrise 6:28 AM
Mercury Rise	Mercury Rise 5:31 AM	Mercury Rise 4:57 AM	Mercury Rise 4:54 AM
Venus Set 9:55 PM	Venus Set 9:43 PM	Venus Set 9:31 PM	Venus Set 9:20 PM
Mars Rise 11:45 PM	Mars Rise 11:24 PM	Mars Rise 11:05 PM	Mars Rise 10:56 PM
Jupiter Set 10:55 PM	Jupiter Set 10:27 PM	Jupiter Set 10:02 PM	Jupiter Set 9:37 PM
Saturn Rise 5:13 AM	Saturn Rise 4:47 AM	Saturn Rise 4:24 AM	Saturn Rise 4:00 AM
Uranus Rise 9:34 PM	Uranus Rise 9:02 PM	Uranus Rise 8:34 PM	Uranus Rise 8:05 PM
Neptune Rise 8:33 PM	Neptune Rise 8:01 PM	Neptune Rise 7:33 PM	Neptune Rise 7:05 PM

All times are for Eugene, Oregon Latitude 44° 3' 8" Longitude 123° 5' 8" for listed Date

Magazine subscriptions go to Richard Boyd: checkerkit@comcast.net



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Keep in-touch with Members and Events!



<http://eugeneastro.org/mailman/listinfo/org.eugeneastro.gen>

What's Out This Month

The Perseids meteor Shower will peak around August 12, so try and get to a dark sky site to see the show. The Moon will be at 1st quarter, so the early morning hours will be nice & dark!

Cygnus is right overhead offering lots of objects to view. See the star chart in this issue for details. The official name of this constellation is the "Swan" the unofficial is the "North Cross". Deneb shining at magnitude 1.25 forms the tail and at the end of the long neck running South is Albiero at magnitude 3.05. Albireo is a beautiful double "The Scout Double" with 40" of separation, about the width of Jupiter.

Deneb is part of the summer triangle, Vega, Deneb & Altair, which is used to guide you to other constellations and objects.

The mythological story, (at least one of them) has Zeus using the disguise of a Swan to seduce Ledia, the wife of Tyndarus who was the King of Sparta. The offspring from this union were the twins Castor & Pollux, in the constellation of Gemini.

Lyra is nearby to the East with the bright star Vega, shining at magnitude 0.03 is easy to locate. Vega is very close to us at only 26 light years. The famous M57 Ring Nebula is located in Lyra.

Take time and use the chart to view all the objects in these two constellations.

Sam

EAS Picnic August 6th

EAS Picnic Saturday, August 6, at the Eugene Yacht Club at Fernridge Reservoir. We have a nice sky with low light pollution. We should have a good evening for viewing after dinner. Check with Club leaders for times and specifics.

PMO Event August 12th

Busy weekend slated for Pine Mountain, August 12th and 13th: Although CLOSED on Thursday evening, the 11th, and Friday morning, the 12th (peak of the Perseids Meteor Shower), Pine Mountain Observatory will be open as usual on those Friday and Saturday evenings, and there should still be plenty of meteors to view in a moonless sky later on in the evening/early morning hours.

In addition, Saturday early evening, there will be a special clinic put on by Richard Berry about using digital cameras to image astronomical objects.

Here are the details about the clinic as written up by the U of O Science Writer, Melody Leslie: "Learn how to image the moon at Pine Mountain Observatory August 13: 'Camera Cookbook' author to assist owners of standard digital cameras. Astronomer Richard Berry, an expert on making digital images of the moon and planets, will give a hands-on for amateurs from 7-9 p.m. Saturday, August 13, at the University of Oregon's Pine Mountain Observatory near Bend.

Berry is the author of eight books on astronomy and photography including "The CCD Camera Cookbook" which describes how to build two high-performance camera systems. We'll image the moon if skies are clear, and perhaps Mars if people are willing to stay up late.

Workshop participants are asked to bring a standard digital camera or webcam and a telephoto lens, tripod, laptop and electric cord. For those with telescopes, a coupler will be needed in order to attach it to the camera. Due to space limitations, the workshop will be limited to the first 25 visitors to arrive at the observatory who intend to attend the clinic. Observers are welcome."

Rick

New EAS List Address

Please use the new address for the EAS list: **org.eugeneastro.general**
To sign-up go to: **<http://eugeneastro.org/mailman/listinfo/org.eugeneastro.general>**

Imaging the Sky 2005 Conference

If you didn't go you missed another great conference. Over the years all kinds of subjects and discussions have been addressed by the ITS conferences. This year was no exception. EAS member Mel Bartels gave an excellent talk on New Approach to Astroimaging, what do you really see? Richard Berry explored the differences and similarities of DSLR's & Astronomical CCD's. He also gave previews of what his new book and software will do. AIP4Windos 2. This will be a must have program for DSLR and CCD imager for Color Image Processing. David Haworth put on another nice presentation with lost of hands on tips for using your DSLR for imaging. He also went through some step by step imaging processing techniques that were very informative. If you missed this one and are considering imaging the night skies make sure you sign up for next year.

Sam

Discovery Channel Explores Deep Impact

The Discovery Channel is bringing its unique perspective to NASA's Deep Impact mission.

The show premieres on Sunday, July 31 at 10 p.m. EDT/PDT.

The Discovery Channel's digital animation depicts comets hitting planets as well as scenes from the Deep Impact mission. The mission, which successfully crashed into Comet Tempel 1 at 1:52 a.m. EDT July 4, is the subject of a two-hour documentary, "Comet Collision!" The show will use state-of-the-art digital imaging to recreate the craft's journey, ending with NASA footage from the impact itself.



Discovery Lift-Off OK

We're finally back into Space



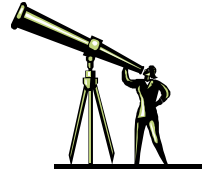
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Oregon Star Party 2005

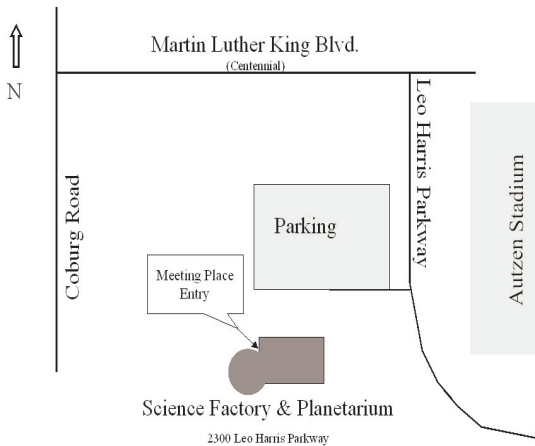
<http://www.oregonstarparty.org/>
September 1-4



The Oregon Star Party is an astronomy adventure featuring quality deep sky viewing. It attracts intellectually curious outdoor lovers who enjoy the romance of a renaissance gathering. All ages enjoy camping among ponderosa, juniper, mountain mahogany, and sage. Past attendees have told us emphatically how much they have enjoyed the camaraderie and dark skies of Indian Trail Spring, and that they will return again!

The Oregon Star Party operates under a Special Use Permit on the Ochoco National Forest. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. The site is located on primitive and undeveloped Forest Service land, approximately one hour's traveling time east of Prineville, Oregon, which is the nearest location for medical facilities, supplies, and gas.

Indian Trail Spring prairie has a panoramic horizon. Its 5000-foot altitude location has good air drainage, excellent sky transparency, steady air, and almost zero light glow from Bend (60 miles) and Prineville (35 miles.) Portland is 190 miles away. The roads are paved to within four miles. The graveled section is in excellent condition.



Map to Eugene Astronomical Society's
Monthly Meetings in Eugene, Oregon

Star Party at Mt. Pisgah July 15, 2005

The Mt. Pisgah Star Party had another great turnout. It was a hot bright evening but 40 plus showed up for a talk about the summer night sky. They learned the location of various constellations and deep sky object accompanied by images taken with amateur astronomy equipment. Soon after the presentation they were treated to a large turnout of EAS members and their scopes. There was lots of questions and viewing. The public really enjoyed viewing through various scopes and asking questions of EAS's knowledgeable members. A real pleasant evening, under semi-dark skies, was had by all.



2 Minute exposure with 20d July 1, 2005 Sam Pitts

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Master Observer Club

Introduction.

The Astronomical League currently sponsors two dozen observing programs for its members to participate in; more will be added in the future, I'm sure. These awards help to give focus and direction to many observers. Ranging from beginning programs for the novice, to those which require a major effort from an observer long committed to the hobby -- from naked eye observing to projects requiring a major light bucket -- and from orbital satellites through the shallow

sky of the solar system to the deep reaches of intergalactic space, these awards have caught the imagination and attention of hundreds of amateur observers. In fact I know a number of professional astronomers who continue to hone their observational skills by participating in AL observing programs.

Many members move through one program after another (or, like me, they are working on several programs, simultaneously), constantly seeking new inspiration. Over the years, the quality of amateur observations has increased. Observers appreciate being rewarded at the completion of a program. Because of this, the League developed a Master Observer Award, which recognizes those whose interests are broad and whose skills are deep. The effort requires a breadth of observing knowledge while also permitting the observer to pursue special interests. What follows is a description of the work required to receive the Master Observer Award.



The Master Observer Club Rules.

The Master Observer Award will be given to an AL member who has completed at least ten of the League's observing programs. There is a core requirement of five observing programs to be completed by all. It consists of the following clubs:

1. Messier Club
2. Binocular Messier Club
3. Lunar Club
4. Double Star
5. Herschel Club

These are currently the five most popular clubs in the League and represent a well-rounded observing program. The member will then be allowed to choose any five of the remaining AL observing programs to complete the requirements for the Master Observer Award.

Please note that only the most advanced award for any club is acceptable for a Master Observer's Award if there are levels in a program, e.g., the Honorary Certificate only for the Messier Club, the 36-hour certificate for the Meteor Club, etc. Note also that the Caldwell has both Gold and Silver Certificates. In this case, each is treated as a separate award.

Once a member has completed ten of the observing programs, she or he will be given a certificate and pin. There is, of course, no charge for the certificate and pin. If you wish to receive the award in another format (a plaque, for instance), please contact the Master Observer Award Coordinator.

The member should contact the coordinator of the Master Observer Awards with information that includes:

- A list of the awards you have completed.
- The certificate number, if possible. (If you do not have the number, an approximate time frame when you received the award would be helpful to reduce the time I have to search to verify the awards.)
- Your name, as you want it printed on the certificate.
- Your mailing address -- with zip code (as the post office will no longer deliver packages without them).
- Your telephone number.
- Your E-mail address.
- Your club affiliation (If you are a Member-At-Large, please include that information, too).

Once the awards are verified and documented, the Master Observer certificate and pin will be sent.

