

# IO – February 2003

[www.eugeneastro.org](http://www.eugeneastro.org)

**Eugene Astronomical Society**, Annual Club Dues \$25, President: Jean Grendler, School Star Party Coordinator , 683-9382, moegren@msn.com,  
Vice-President & Treasurer: Sue Moe, [suemoe@worldnet.att.net](mailto:suemoe@worldnet.att.net), Telescope lending program: Jeff Phillips 685-0973, [phichu@epud.net](mailto:phichu@epud.net) ,  
*\*Io (EYE-oh) is nearest to Jupiter and fastest orbiting of the four Galilean moons.*  
IO editor, Sam Pitts, sampitts@aol.com

## EAS - February 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

Meeting will start at 7:00 PM, come early and mingle with fellow members. Share your observing experiences with others. Bring questions regarding astronomy equipment and observing and we will try and answer them.

Dave Cole will present an in-depth look into the New **Celestron 11" Nexstar GPS GoTo** telescope system. This will be a very informative presentation by a veteran user. Dave has been observing for many years. Dave has been published in Sky & Telescope, he brings volumes of knowledge regarding telescopes, equipment, imaging etc. Dave maintains a very informative Web site devoted to this telescope system, along with many resources and links. Visit his site:

<http://www.nexstar11.com>



### Image of the Month

Please submit your Astronomy photos or images to Dave Cole so he can select one to post on the EAS Web-Site. I can digitize 35mm negatives or prints so they can be used. -Sam

EAS welcomes all amateurs' astronomers or those who just have an interest in Astronomy, to come and participate in our meetings. Our members are more than willing to introduce you to the wonders of the night sky. See you there!

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## Observers Corner

### Winter Skies

Should the weather clear in Eugene, its time to look at the gas Giants, especially Jupiter & Saturn. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of February Jupiter will be at -2.6 Magnitude and 45.5" in diameter. Time for some really good views. Take advantage of this approach; take some photos or CCD images. Several good Transits will be visible from Eugene this month, as well as the Great Red Spot. Use filters to aid in viewing the GRS, Blue and Green filters help.

Saturn is at magnitude -0.2 and 19.8", situated high overhead for good viewing if the shies cooperate

Venus (-4.3) is nice and bright in the early morning Eastern sky. Mars, (1.3) is to Venus's upper right and Mercury to the lower left.

M81 & M82 are also in ideal positions for viewing and imaging. The rest of the Winter constellations are out in force and lots of great objects are visible if the weather cooperates.

Hope you can get out and enjoy the Winter Skies

-Sam

### Jupiter's Red Spot Centered PST

02/01	00:06	19:57		02/16	07:23	17:19
02/02	05:53			02/17	03:14	23:05
02/03	08:44	21:35		02/18	19:57	
02/04	07:31	17:26		02/19	04:52	
02/05	03:22	23:13		02/20	00:43	20:35
02/06	19:04			02/21	06:30	
02/07	05:00			02/22	02:22	22:13
02/08	00:51	20:42		02/23	18:04	
02/09	06:38			02/24	04:00	23:51
02/10	02:29	22:20		02/25	19:42	
02/11	18:11			02/26	05:38	
02/12	04:07	21:58		02/27	01:29	21:20
02/13	19:49			02/28	07:16	
02/14	05:45					
02/15	01:36	21:27				

## Transits of Jupiter's Moons



01/31	18:20	Io	Transit Begins
	20:22	Europa	Transit Ends
	20:38	Io	Transit Ends
	23:17	Europa	Transit Ends
02/03	02:48	Callisto	Transit Begins
	07:34	Callisto	Transit Ends
02/06	01:38	Io	Transit Begins
	03:55	Io	Transit Ends
02/07	20:04	Io	Transit Begins
	22:21	Io	Transit Ends
	22:37	Europa	Transit Begins
02/08	01:32	Europa	Transit Ends
02/09	16:47	Io	Transit Ends
02/13	03:22	Io	Transit Begins
	05:39	Io	Transit Ends
02/14	21:48	Io	Transit Begins
02/15	00:05	Io	Transit Ends
	00:53	Europa	Transit Begins
	03:48	Europa	Transit Ends
02/16	16:14	Io	Transit Begins
	18:31	Io	Transit Ends
02/18	16:56	Europa	Transit Ends
02/19	17:00	Callisto	Transit Begins
	21:46	Callisto	Transit Ends
02/20	05:06	Io	Transit Begins
	07:23	Io	Transit Ends
	19:04	Ganymede	Transit Ends
02/21	23:32	Io	Transit Begins
02/22	01:49	Io	Transit Ends
	03:10	Europa	Transit Begins
	07:04	Europa	Transit Ends
02/23	17:58	Io	Transit Begins
	21:15	Io	Transit Ends
02/25	16:19	Europa	Transit Begins
	19:13	Europa	Transit Ends
02/27	18:48	Ganymede	Transit Begins
	22:25	Ganymede	Transit Ends

Shadows cast on Jupiter's disk by Transit of its moons may Begin and end after transit times. Begin observing before Times listed do time variation due to precise location within time zones.

All times PST for Eugene

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## Desert Sunset Star Party- May 1-4, 2003

Registration is now online for the Desert Sunset Star Party. Please check our web-site (<http://chartmarker.tripod.com/sunset.htm>) for details about this new star party and to get your registration forms. We have speakers who will talk on a variety of subjects such as identifying stars, supernovae, Mars and the weather in the Southwest. We will have vendors present and door prizes, and a contest for the best Simple Astronomy Tool (SAT). We also have lots to do during the day and have scheduled tours to Mt. Hopkins (Whipple Observatory), BioSphere 2, and the University of Arizona Mirror Lab. Catered meals will also be available. If you do not have web access, please contact a club member to get the forms. We hope you will be able to join us.

Chart Markers and More  
Pat and Arleen Heimann  
<http://chartmarker.tripod.com>

## THE SCIENCE FACTORY

The Science Factory is having a Seeing Stars weekend Feb. 8 and 9 from 12-4. The activities will be themed around stars and other space objects. I would love to have EAS members show off their collections, telescopes, or expertise. Please have any interested members email me at [samara@sciencefactory.org](mailto:samara@sciencefactory.org)

Thank you.  
-SAMARA

## See our Treasure Sue Moe

Subscribe to Sky & Telescope and/or Astronomy Magazine  
And take advantage of our club's 10% discount  
You also get a 10% discount at the S & T Store

## Sale-Trade-Wanted

Check EAS WEB Page Under  
Observing Resources –  
EAS Classified Advertisements



## Astronomical League Observing Clubs

The **Observing Clubs** offer encouragement and certificates of accomplishment for demonstrating observing skills with a variety of instruments and objects. These include the Messier Club; Binocular Messier Club and the Herschel 400 Club, the Deep Sky Binocular Club, the Southern Skies Binocular Club, the Meteor Club, the Double Star Club, and the newly formed Lunar Club.

Each Club offers a certificate based upon achieving certain observing goals. These are usually in the form of a specific number of objects of a specific group with a given type of instrument. Occasionally there are multiple levels of accomplishment within the club. There is no time limit for completing the required observing, but good record keeping is required.

When you have reached the requisite number of objects, your observing logs are examined by the appropriate authority and you will receive a certificate and pin to proclaim to all that you have reached your goal. Many local astronomical societies even post lists of those who have obtained their certificates.

The current Observing Clubs are:

**Check out their great Web-Site**  
**All members of EAS in good standing are**  
**Members of AL**

[www.astroleague.org/al/obsclubs/obsclub.html](http://www.astroleague.org/al/obsclubs/obsclub.html)

## Editors Note

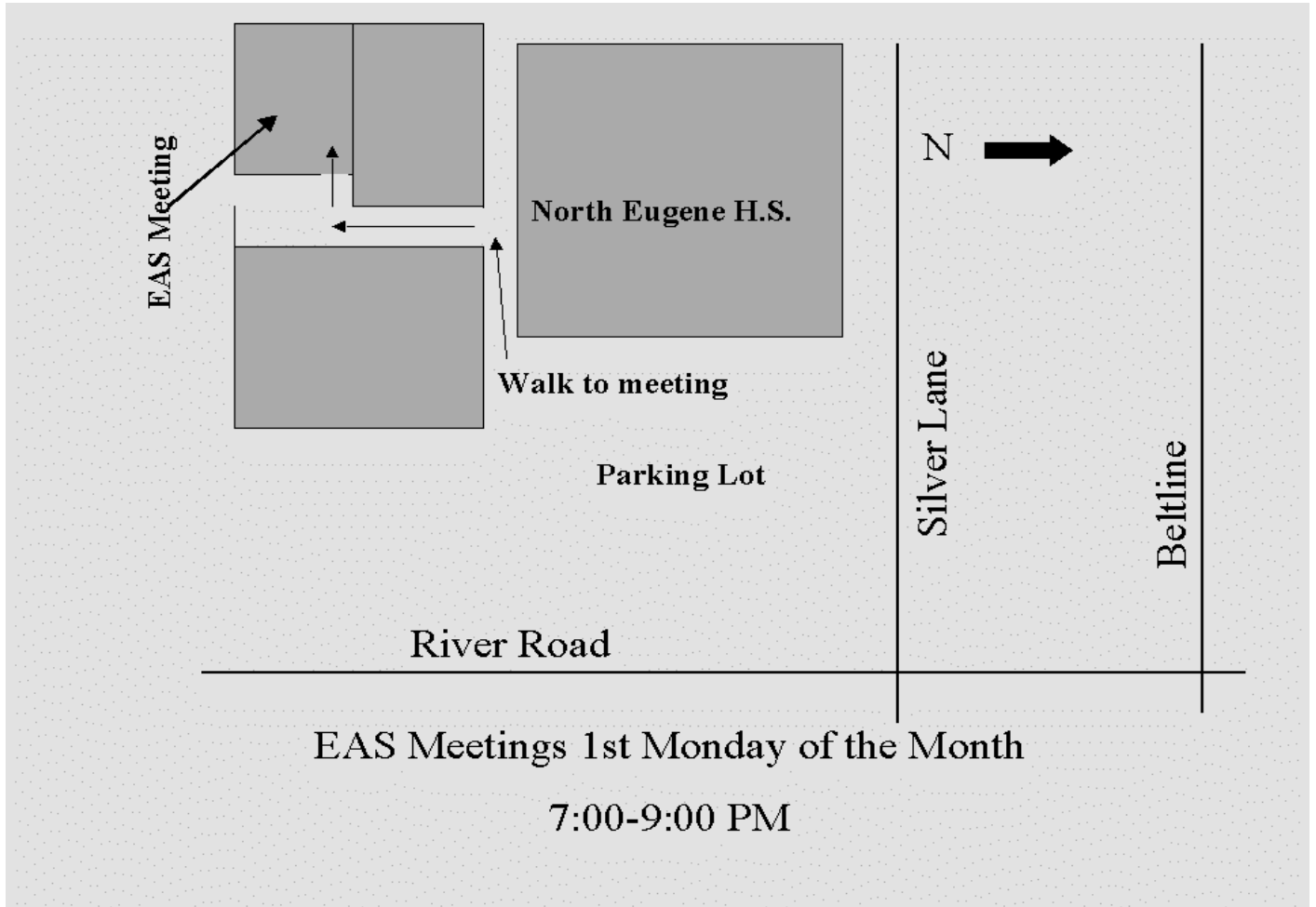
It will be posted on our Web site, thanks to Dave Cole, and may have additional images and information that may not be economical for our mail out version.

Please Check our Web Site and join the user groups.

Thanks Sam

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**Come to a meeting and share your hobby with others!**

## **MESSIER SEASON IS COMING**

Time to get ready. Visit the Astronomical League's Web Site.  
It has manuals, guides and help regarding Messier Marathons and Clubs.

<http://www.astroleague.org>

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**Winter Astronomy  
in  
Eugene, Oregon**



**Time to start planning those Spring & Summer  
Astronomy Outings.**

✦ **Joint the EAS Mail List and get up to date  
Star Party information from Club members.** ✦

**Go to the EAS Web Site [www.eugeneastro.org](http://www.eugeneastro.org)  
Go to Mail List Sign-up and get on the list.**