

IO – January 2003

www.eugeneastro.org

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

EAS POST OFFICE BOX

Hello EAS planning and other members, I spent the better part of the morning waiting in line at the Gateway Post Office to pay and reopen the EAS Post Office box. The rent on it was due last September; the notice was probably put in the box in August. Whoever picked up that notice did not pay it, and it was not in the treasurer's material that was handed over to Sue Moe recently. I checked the EAS checkbook and found that indeed, a year from last September was the last time the rent was paid. Our EAS mail has been being returned to sender since last October. The box was never rented to anyone else, so we are lucky to have our same address, but very embarrassed that some of our members' dues have been returned to them, and most likely club mail from AL and insurance quotes we have been waiting for. Since Sue became treasurer recently, (since she got the key) every time Sue checked the box, it was empty. She did a dues reminder mailing a week or so ago, and it was only due to Doc Bishop emailing her that we discovered the problem. I thank him very much for letting Sue know that his mail was returned, and hope that he and others will send their dues and other business to the EAS post office box. I sincerely apologize for the inconvenience this has caused members.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The cats are persistent at my house, and last night, as I made yet another trip to the door to let the loud one in, I noticed that there were stars shining through some "sucker holes". Am I a sucker or what? Knowing that the forecast holds nothing but rain for the next ten days, and anxious to get a look at Saturn, I decided that this might be my one and only chance. Sucker holes being what they are, I didn't waste time setting up the SCT. Instead I grabbed my granddaughter Mikkie's 8" Celestron Dob, set it up outside my front door and got Saturn in the eyepiece. What a surprise! Not only was I treated to glorious views of Saturn. I got to see my favorite nebula (M42) and some great high power lunar views! My LV zoom eyepiece finally got a workout. I got a chance to share the eyepiece with a neighbor who was out walking her dog. She was thrilled at the opportunity to see the ringed planet.

The upcoming year will be a great one for planet viewing! I am happy that this is the year that I get to try my hand at being President of an organization of which I am so proud to be a member! Last night's experience reminds me of the reasons I became involved with Eugene Astronomical Society. Enthusiastic members were sharing the eyepiece with the public! I was at an EAS Star Party at the College Hill Reservoir and the jewel of the sky was Saturn that night, too. That time the rings were edge-on and I could see features and color that made me feel like I was right up close to the planet! Now, through EAS star parties and events, and spontaneous viewing and sharing the eyepiece like happened last night, I get to provide that awesome first experience to others!

Some members have said to me that they would like to have more EAS Star Parties. Others want to take advantage of trips to the dark sky site with other members, perhaps to learn from those more experienced. I look forward to that. I also look forward to hearing from members who have something to share and would like to present a program at a club meeting. I encourage members to write articles for the IO newsletter. Your input will help drive the club this year. I will ask you to fill out a survey at the next meeting, so the planning group can take direction from it.

EAS also has some business items to attend to in the early months of the year. The club is growing and very active in the community. Those members who are interested in being on a "club business" type of committee are encouraged to speak up.

I want to thank all of the club members for all the hard work they have put into club activities and community activities over the past year! What are we going to do for next Astronomy Day???

-Jean Grendler, President

NEW OFFICERS

At the December 2002 EAS Meeting:

Jean Grendler was elected President

Sue Moe was elected Vice-President

(Will continue her duties as Treasurer)

Sam Pitts was appointed as IO Editor

David Cole is the WEB Master/Editor and Chief

IO – January 2003

www.eugeneastro.org

Observers Corner

NEW COMET: Northern sky watchers with telescopes can spot a newly discovered comet, C/2002 X5, in the constellation Hercules just before dawn this week. It is a 7th to 8th magnitude object now, but it could brighten spectacularly (to visual magnitude -3) in late January when it approaches the sun even closer than the planet Mercury. [Ephemeris] [Dec. 16th sky map] Stay tuned for more.... Dave Cole

Astronomical Events

Mercury : Rise: 8:51 AM on 1/1/03 Set: 6:08 PM
RA: 18h 47m 57s Dec: -22°58' 56" Size 8.12"
Venus : Rise: 3:58 AM on 1/1/03 Set: 2:01 PM
RA: 15h 32m 06.7s Dec: -15°26' 16" Size 27.62"
Mars: Rise: 3:45 AM on 1/1/03 Set: 1:33 PM
RA: 15h 11m 30.0s Dec: -17°07' 25" Size 4.58"
Jupiter : Rise: 7:34 PM on 1/1/03 Set:
RA: 09h 18m 02.3s Dec: +16°32' 04" Size 44.0"
Saturn : Rise: 3:27 PM on 1/1/03 Set: 6:40 AM
RA: 05h 35m 44.3s Dec: +22°02' 20" Size 20.5"
Uranus: Rise: 10:13 AM on 1/1/03 Set: 8:31 PM
RA: 21h 55m 09.6s Dec: -13°25' 36" Size 3.38"
Pluto: Rise: 5:32 AM on 1/1/03 Set: 3:48 PM
RA: 17h 12m 17.8s Dec: -13°45' 22" Size 0.13"

Jupiter's Red Spot Centered PST

12/31	23:37			01/17	02:45	22:36
01/01	19:29			01/19	04:23	
01/02	05:34			01/20	00:14	20:04
01/03	01:15	21:06		01/21	06:01	
01/05	02:53	22:44		01/22	01:52	21:43
01/07	04:31			01/24	03:30	23:21
01/08	20:13			01/26	05:08	
01/09	06:09			01/27	00:59	20:50
01/10	02:00	21:51		01/28	06:46	
01/12	03:38	23:29		01/29	02:37	22:28
01/14	05:16			01/31	04:15	
01/15	01:07	20:58				

Astronomical Events

12/31	22:02	Callisto	Transit Begins
01/01	02:48	Callisto	Transit Ends
01/05	05:13	Io	Transit Begins
01/06	23:11	Europa	Shadow Begins
	23:41	Io	Shadow Begins
01/07	00:11	Europa	Transit Begins
	00:27	Io	Transit Begins
	02:34	Io	Transit Ends
	03:21	Europa	Transit Ends
01/08	17:24	Ganymede	Shadow Begins
	18:09	Io	Shadow Begins
	18:44	Io	Transit Begins
	19:46	Ganymede	Transit Begins
	21:01	Io	Transit Ends
	23:23	Ganymede	Transit Ends
01/12	07:06	Io	Shadow Begins
01/14	01:34	Io	Shadow Begins
	01:48	Europa	Shadow Begins
	02:02	Io	Transit Begins
	02:44	Europa	Transit Begins
	04:19	Io	Transit Ends
	05:38	Europa	Transit Ends
01/15	20:03	Io	Shadow Begins
	20:28	Io	Transit Begins
	21:25	Ganymede	Shadow Begins
	22:45	Io	Transit Ends
	23:05	Ganymede	Transit Begins
01/16	02:42	Ganymede	Transit Ends
01/21	03:28	Io	Shadow Begins
	03:45	Io	Transit Begins
	04:24	Europa	Shadow Begins
	05:00	Europa	Transit Begins
01/22	21:56	Io	Shadow Begins
	22:11	Io	Transit Begins
01/23	00:28	Io	Transit Ends
	01:23	Ganymede	Shadow Begins
	02:22	Ganymede	Transit Begins
	05:59	Ganymede	Transit Ends
01/24	21:02	Europa	Transit Ends
01/28	05:22	Io	Shadow Begins
	05:29	Io	Transit Begins
	07:01	Europa	Shadow Begins
	07:15	Europa	Transit Begins
01/29	23:50	Io	Shadow Begins
	23:55	Io	Transit Begins
01/30	02:12	Io	Transit Ends
	05:21	Ganymede	Shadow Begins
	05:38	Ganymede	Transit Begins

All times PST for Eugene

IO – January 2003

www.eugeneastro.org

Astronomical League

One of the many benefits of EAS membership is belonging to the Astronomical League. The AL provides the programs for recognizing achievement in observing. For instance, Sam Pitts will be receiving a Messier Club Certificate for his accomplishments. Another benefit from the AL is the Reflector Magazine. Your club officers are in the process of updating the EAS membership roster for the Astronomical League. It has come to our attention that many EAS members' dues are not current. The treasurer has been working on a mailing to remind people who might be at risk of being left off the AL roster. Sue Moe, the EAS treasurer and VP, will be functioning as the Alcor, the liaison between EAS and AL. We thank Larry Dunn for his work on this in the past. Larry wanted to hand this over to someone else now. Time will be set aside at an upcoming meeting to acquaint newer members with the many benefits and programs offered by the Astronomical League.

-Jean Grendler

Chance of a Lifetime

Dear Astronomy Club Newsletter Editor,

The Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP) is very pleased to announce an event which will be of great interest to your club members: a fundraising auction to be held in mid-January on eBay for an observing night at the W.M. Keck Observatory in Hawaii's with internationally renowned astronomer and extra-solar planet hunter, Dr. Geoff Marcy. To sign up for auction notification and see complete details, visit <http://www.astrosociety.org>.

Auction proceeds will support the ASP's nationwide education programs, and five percent of the winning bid will be donated to the astronomy club of the winner's choice in support of local community outreach programs. We provide the following release in the hope that you will forward it to your club members via your newsletter or email distribution list. Press contact: Bob Naeye, Editor, and Mercury magazine, 415-337-1100 ext. 108, rnaeye@astrosociety.org.

-Rick Kang

Sale-Trade-Wanted

Home made Dob scope with:

15" porthole glass, F/7 mirror, Astro systems Phase 4 focuser Spider and holder, 3.10 diagonal mirror, Telrad Finder, 17MM Plossal eye piece.

Would like to sell scope or all components as a package Est. value at \$900.00, will sell for **\$500.00** of best offer

If interested contact Nick Winowitch in Woodburn
nickw4@att.net (503)982-2970

**Also Check EAS WEB Page Under
Observing Resources-EAS Classified Advertisements**

EAS & its members are not responsible for the accuracy or validity of any advertisements. Buy-Trade at your own risk

Rapid Refill Ink

Rapid Refill Ink (830 Willamette St. Eugene) CEO Dan White, has offered our club members a 10% discount on services (refill your ink cartridges). Just let them know you are with EAS. The club may also have an opportunity to do a collaborative photo event with Rapid Refill Ink.

www.rapidrefillink.com

-Jean Grendler

Editors Note

I appreciate the opportunity to be the editor of the EAS publication the "Io". Articles are welcome and will be reviewed for content and spell checked when possible. Please feel free to contribute information and articles regarding our hobby. Articles should be in Word format (Current virus scanned) and not too long. These articles should be informative and helpful to all that share our hobby. How to articles and experiences in observing or using equipment are most welcome.

I would like to hear from you and learn what you want covered in our monthly publication. I am planning on having a color page if the costs are not prohibitive. This may include photos that you submit.

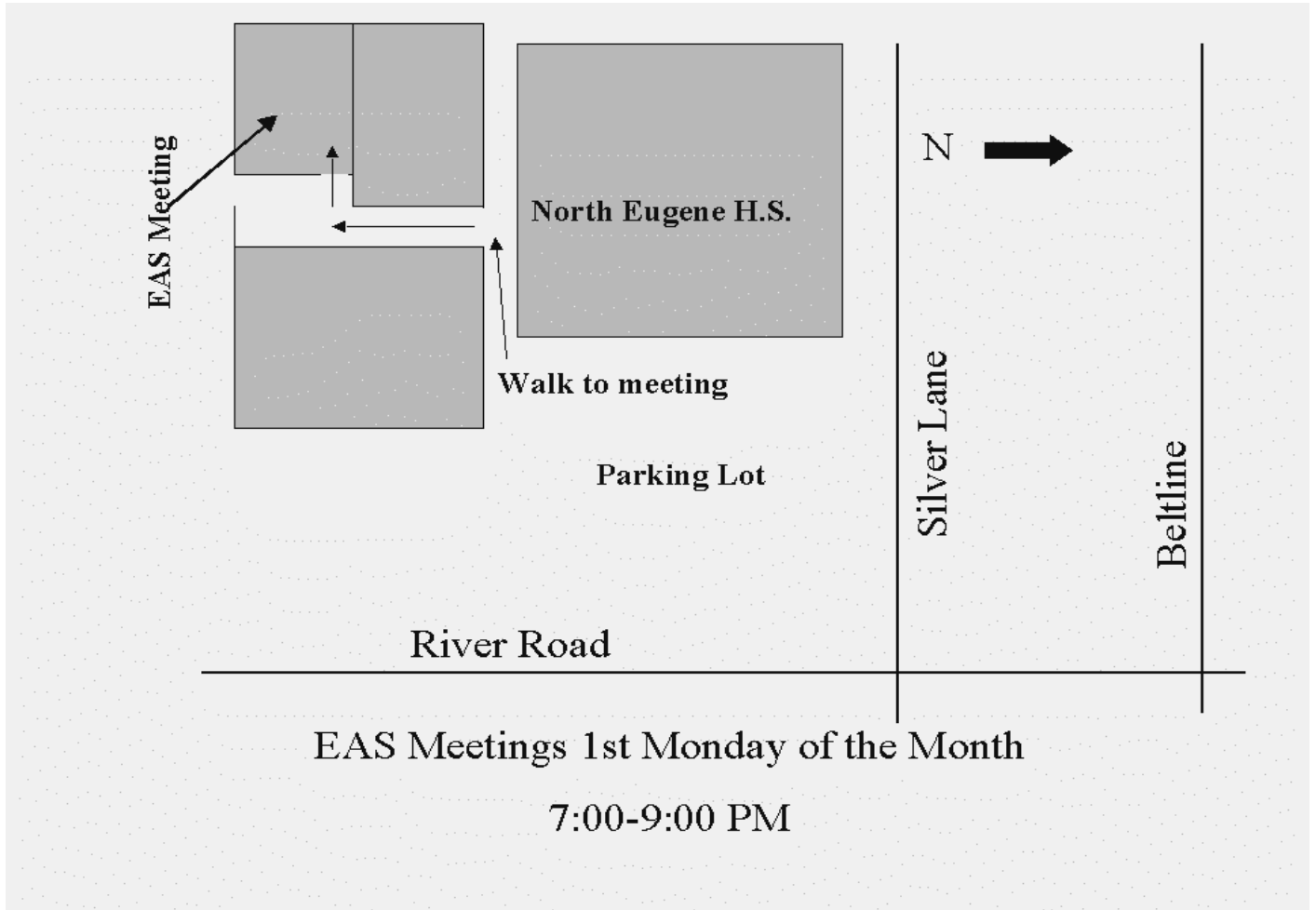
Io will be posted on our Web site, thanks to Dave Cole, and may have additional images and information that may not be economical for our mail out version. Hope you like the changes so far.

Please Check our Web Site and join the user groups.

Thanks Sam

IO – January 2003

www.eugeneastro.org



Come to a meeting and share your hobby with others!