



THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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The President's Message

I think we have found a cure for the drought, just schedule a few more star parties. Monte Cristo and Rockport ended up being mostly camping trips. Waking up to hail on the ground Saturday morning at Monte was a shock. It was great getting together though, and the afternoon tea parties and potluck dinners were good, it was nice to get out of the city heat. With a new camp host at Monte Cristo, we should look forward to a better star party August 22, 23. We also have the Rockport star party rescheduled for August 16.

With the Lowell Observatory trip just a month away, we need to finalize plans. We have the Observatory reserved for September 8, 9, 10. I need to know who is going and for which nights you want. Please call me or send me an E-mail and let me know how many will be with you and for what nights, before August 15. We will have the telescope from about 9:30 to midnight. The cost will be split equally between those attending each night, \$125.00 plus \$4.00 per person, payable when we enter. Everyone will arrange their own transportation and lodging. You can reach me at: home 479-5803 or E-mail "levae@aol.com"

Thanks, Lee Priest

Rockport Reports

Rockport has a really fine facility and it was nice and dark. It was also cloudy and rainy. We have been asked to come back on 8/16. So I guess we will get another chance.

Dave Dunn

We have the Rockport star party rescheduled for August 16, It will be at the Highland day use area. We also will have two camp sites available for anyone wanting to stay overnight.

Lee

Upcoming Events & 2003 Star Party Schedule

Except for the OAS meetings, all events listed are star parties.

Aug 14	No OAS meeting!
Aug 22, 23	Monte Cristo
Aug 30	Antelope Island
Sept 4	OAS meeting, Ott Planetarium - Annual Business Meeting (moved to the first Thursday because of the Lowell trip)
Sept 8, 9, 10	Lowell Observatory, Flagstaff AZ.
Sept 27	Antelope Island
Oct 9	OAS meeting
Oct 25	Antelope Island

Antelope Island Star Party

That ole' star party magic struck again! Beautiful, clear skies all week leading up to 5 July; beautiful skies that morning. Then the clouds came marching in. Rats! They did provide a small measure of compensation for showing up by putting on a beautiful sunset show. Oh well, it was a very pleasant evening - mild temperatures, little wind, and Dr. John Armstrong gave a very interesting talk. There were a fair number of telescopes in the field - more were set up after the picture below was taken. Less than 100 people came, but there were some keen observers among them. We had a good look at the Moon and Jupiter early in the evening. After it got dark enough, several of the deep sky objects could be seen by chasing holes in the clouds.

There were some issues regarding OAS members' free access to Antelope for star parties - see Lee's note below.

Jim Sgt

Future Star Parties At Antelope?

Hi All

I had a meeting today with Ron Taylor, the new Antelope Island Manager, we talked about procedures for access to the Island for star parties. He would like us to fax a list of those who will be attending. We can use a complete membership list and add anyone we need to add, we should also include anyone from WSU that will go going out there. We can fax the list before the star party or bring it the night of the star party. He wants the person at the gate to check the names off the list so he will have a record of how many cars are getting free, he doesn't care if they are members, or how many people there are as long as they are legitimately there to help with the star party. Also free access would not be allowed before 6:00 PM.

If any of you can see a problem with this let me know. If we need to get together and talk about it we can do that also.

Thanks, Lee

Further discussions have lead us to conclude that we will finish out the scheduled events at Antelope for this year, then look for another site for next year. Suggestions are welcome.

Jim Sgt

Noted Author To Speak At Clark Planetarium

Author William K. Hartmann, winner of the first Carl Sagan Medal from the American Astronomical Society will be speaking at the Clark Planetarium on Friday, August 8, 6:30 p.m. in the Hansen Star Theatre. Mr. Hartmann will be discussing his new book "A Traveler's Guide to Mars" which coincides with the Martian planet coming within 34 million miles of Earth-the closest it's been in more than fifty thousand years. A book signing at Barnes and Noble, Gateway, will follow his presentation. Seating is extremely limited and will be on a first come first served basis. For more information please call 456-STAR (7827).



Antelope Scenes - Telescope Field and Sunset

