



THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

OAS Executive Committee

President- Lee Priest
Ph. (801) 479-5803
Vice Pres- Cliff Peterson
Ph. (801) 782-4378
Secretary- Jim Seargeant
Ph. (801) 479-4050
Treasurer- Doug Say
(801) 731-7324

Vol. 32

Number 8

May 2003

<http://physics.weber.edu/oas/oas.html>

The President's Message

Hi, All

April weather is always a bit iffy but we still managed to get a few good nights of observing in. The Dead Horse Point star party had some good observing on Friday night and we had the Solar Scope out for a couple of hours Sunday morning. It was great to get away for a few days; part of the attraction for this trip is all the places to see and things to do in the area. The southern Utah desert in spring is a beautiful place, with the wild flowers in bloom and the wide range of scenery. Even with the limited observing we considered the trip very worth while.

We had our first Antelope Island Star Party April 19.



There was a good turnout, especially from members with telescopes. Dr. Brad Carroll gave a great presentation with slide show and Dr. Stacy Palen showed the crowd Jupiter, Saturn and several other objects with very informative explanations of what they were looking at.



We have several star parties scheduled for Elementary schools this month. We usually have 50 to 70 students

attend these star parties so we need as many telescopes as possible, your support is greatly appreciated. Check the schedule for dates and locations.

Thanks for all your support, I am looking forward to a fun summer.

Lee Priest, OAS President

OAS Minutes - 10 April 03

The meeting was brought to order at 7:34 PM by President Lee Priest.

Lee went through the schedule for the up coming star parties. (See below for schedule.)

We had about six members and families make it to the Dead Horse State Park star party on April 4, 5. The viewing was good Friday night until about 10:00, when the clouds moved in, Saturday night was cloudy. Day time activities included seeing the sights in the area.

After a short discussion it was decided to scheduled next years Dead Horse star party for April 16, 17 2004 and make reservations for the group camp site. The group camp site cost \$50.00 a night with the money payable at the time of the reservation. Reservations are made 11 months in advance. David Dunn proposed a motion to use \$100.00 of club funds to hold the two night reservation with those attending to split the cost and reimburse the club. The motion was seconded by Kay Hargis, all voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting moved to the show and tell, David Dunn showed us the green and red LED flashlights he built. He removed the bulb from the flashlight and replaced the filament with an LED and resistor. David also reviewed the books that were donated to the club. His review will be on our web site, the books will be available at the Planetarium for members in good standing to check out.

Dr. Sohl had the High School "Reach for the Stars" test questions, members had a chance to go through the questions and Answers were discussed. It was a very challenging test.

Deloy Pierce showed a video of the Columbia space shuttle as it came over southern Utah, The image showed the possible beginning of the breakup.

Lee Priest had two DVD's, the IMAX program "Solar Max" and "Wonders of the Universe" but because of the late hour, they will be next months program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Upcoming Events & 2003 Star Party Schedule

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

| | |
|---------------|---|
| May 1 | Adams Elementary School, 2200 E. 2500 N., Layton (2500 N. is Sunset Dr.) |
| May 2 | Farr West Stake Center near Hoagie Corner in Farr West (not an official OAS star party) |
| May 3 | Antelope Island |
| May 8 | OAS Meeting, 7:30 PM, Ott Planetarium |
| May 9 | Roy Elementary School, 2800 W. 5600 S., Roy |
| May 16 | Monte Vista Elementary School, 100 South 200 East, Farmington |
| May 23 | Midland Elementary School, 4800 S. 3100 W., Roy |
| Jun 7 | Antelope Island |
| Jun 28 | East Canyon State Park |
| Jul 5 | Antelope Island |
| Jul 25, 26 | Monte Cristo |
| Aug 22, 23 | Monte Cristo |
| Aug 30 | Antelope Island |
| Sept 8, 9, 10 | Lowell Observatory, Flagstaff, AZ. |
| Sept 27 | Antelope Island |
| Oct 25 | Antelope Island |

I Surrender!

I give up, I've met my master, no contest, mercy! I've bragged rashly about being able to at least contend for the "most wires to the telescope" contest, amateur division. Did you see the article in the May, 2003 Sky and Tel on the Paramount telescope mount? (Want,

want!) Dale Mais has won as far as I'm concerned. I hereby retire from the competition, utterly crushed.

Jim Sgt.

Lowell Observatory Trip

I would like to get an idea of how many people are interested in the trip to the Lowell Observatory September 8, 9, and 10th. At the May meeting I will be asking for a head count of members and families and what dates you would like to go. If you won't be to the meeting but want to go, send me an E-mail or call me at home. "levae@aol.com" or 479-5803. The cost for the observatory is \$125.00 per night plus \$4.00 per person. For 10 people, that works out to be about \$16.00 each, per night. Everyone will arrange their own transportation and lodging.

Lee

Jim Seargeant's Pier

Still working on the pier, so still no astro images. The concrete foundation was poured and cured, with the four 1" hold-down bolts welded to the re-bar cage. Pier assembly was scheduled for Saturday morning, 26 April. Pretty good timing, wasn't it? What's a little rain, snow, wind, cold and mud? Beautiful day! Not! We whimpered and complained a bit, but got it done anyway, with many precautions against one of us becoming ground for the welder. Gene and Ron, expert steel construction workers, did the work - I helped lower the 77" long, 12 1/2" diameter, 1/2 in wall, 400-odd lb steel pipe through the 14" x 14" hole in the deck, supervised the welding (eyes averted) and fixed lunch. Looks great, but it may need a bit more welding and then a paint job. The leveling plate for the top is almost done. There should be a telescope on top of it in a couple of weeks! Jim Sgt

