



# THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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Vol. 36 Number 3

November 2006

<http://ogdenastronomy.com/>

## The President's Message

Hi every body,

Another month has passed and we're now heading into the cold months. This can be some of the best viewing of the year if you can stand the cold. We have a few activities this month that we would sure like to see everybody attend.

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be meeting at Doug Say's house for the Mercury transit. It will be from noon to five pm. Doug will be providing hot dogs and buns and it would be good if everybody brought a side dish.

November 9<sup>th</sup>, we have our meeting at the Ott Planetarium. This will be a beginners telescope/how to buy class. Cliff Peterson will be giving a presentation on this and we will have a variety of telescopes to see the different designs. If weather permits we will go outside for a star party.

November 25<sup>th</sup> Antelope Island is having a public moon party @ 4:00 pm and has asked if we want to help out. I will let everyone know more as it comes. And finally we have completed the antelope island 2007 schedule and it is posted on the web page. I highly recommend everybody download the Google calendar. You can also add the lunar phase to the calendar after you download it. It is very good.

Clear skies and warm temps...Mike

## OAS Minutes, October 2006

The Monthly meeting of the Ogden Astronomical Society was held on October 12<sup>th</sup> at the Ott Planetarium. President Mike Klein called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Mike made announcements of several Star Parties. Antelope Island will be 10/14. Bountiful Jr. High will be on 10/17. Dead Horse Point will be 10/19 – 10/22.

Doug has calendars for sale as in past years. They are \$10 each. This is a savings of almost \$3 off the regular price.

Tyson Harris, a new member of the club, responded to our call for help. He designs and builds web pages professionally. He put together a sample of what we could do. The club members, that were present, exchanged ideas of what they would like to see on the web site. Tyson also did research on web hosting companies that would meet our needs. The one he recommended is GoDaddy.com. We can get web hosting for about \$75 per year. This includes 100 GB of space, 1000 GB of Transfer, 1000 email accounts (if we want to set them up), 25 MySQL Databases, Unlimited Email forwards, Forums, Blogging, Photo Galleries and No Ads. A motion was presented, seconded and approved by the members to purchase this hosting. Tyson did a great job on this design and development. He did it all at no cost to us. We owe him a big Thank you. I think that if you hear of anyone that could use his services, you should send them his way.

Following the discussion on the web site, the meeting was adjourned.

David Dunn.

## Year In Space Calendar

Lee Priest will be taking orders for the "Year In Space" calendar again this year. This is a spiral bound, desktop calendar. We can get them for \$9.95 if we order more than 10. Lee will be taking orders at the meeting. He plans to send the order in on 11/10. If you are not coming to the meeting, you can call him at home at 479-5803 or send him an email at [levae@aol.com](mailto:levae@aol.com).

## What's up in November

November can be a fun month to view the sky at night. Some of the summer's constellations are still visible and the winter constellations are starting to come up. There are also several meteor showers. Another good thing is that it starts getting dark earlier so you can still use your telescope and get your sleep.

I have been watching comet Swan in the evening. It has brightened a bit and was almost visible naked eye a few nights ago. I hear it is getting a little dimmer again. It is still fun to see a comet, even when you need binoculars or a telescope. It has moved from Bootes to Hercules. It is a beautiful blue fuzball. I haven't been able to see more than a hint of a tale from my front yard. A couple of other things to look for are:

- 11/05 16 UT Meteor shower peak - Taurids S
- 11/08 22 UT Transit of Mercury for the Americas and Far East
- 11/12 15 UT Meteor shower peak - Taurids N
- 11/17 21 UT Meteor shower peak – Leonids

We plan to get together as a club at Doug Say's home to observe the Mercury Transit. It begins at about noon and finishes at 5:08. We are also planning to have a potluck lunch so bring something good to eat. It should be a fun activity. Doug's home is at 2060 W. 1025 N. Farr West. To get there take the Harrisville and head West. Turn North on the highway to the west of the freeway. Park at Doug Say Auto (100 yards north of CAL store), we will be set up on the lawn.

## OAS's New Website

OAS has a new website. For those of you that haven't heard or visited it yet, it is [ogdenastronomy.com](http://ogdenastronomy.com). It is fully functional and we would love to hear comments about it, both positive and suggestions. This site was designed so that you could make it your home page. The News window updates automatically by use of an RSS reader. If you know of any other good sources of Astronomy news, please send them in to us. The FAQ section

will update automatically as questions are asked. We will also try to pre-populate it with some questions that we think will be asked. If you have some ideas about this let us know.

The calendar feature on the website is a Google calendar. Mike can modify the dates on the calendar on Google and it will take effect on our website. This will be nice for some of our star parties where the weather is doubtful. Mike will be able to post on the calendar that the party is cancelled and we can just check online before we head out.

There are several things on this site that will be new to some of us. The OAS Forum and Member Gallery are two things that we haven't had before. A couple of people have tried them out. Go out and have a look around.

Mike has also scheduled a member chat time for 8pm on the third Wednesday of each month. The plan is that we can meet together online and chat about various things. Even though I am not much of an online chatter, I plan to try this out.

You will want to update your links to our site. We will eliminate the tripod account when it expires.