

Saguaro Astronomy Club

Metro Phoenix, Arizona

SACNEWS



July 1998 — Issue #258

v6.24

Birth of the Northern Arizona Star Party

by Paul Dickson

Sometimes when you start something, everything goes smoothly. Other times it goes roughly. And still other times it starts explosively, like the Northern Arizona Star Party sponsored by the Prescott Astronomy Club.

This is the story of how the Northern Arizona Star Party came about and lessons in communication that should be learned.

During the events that will be told, I was a member of both SAC and EVAC. I served as SAC's newsletter editor and I was on EVAC's Board of Directors, a position I served from 1995 through 1997.

During 1996, the EVAC Board of Directors voted to sponsor the 1996 All-Arizona Star Party, and to also look for another club to sponsor it in 1997 and perhaps put it on a rotating basis that included other clubs. This would allow other sites to be used. The board went so far as to consider co-sponsoring the event to assist a smaller astronomy club with such things as insurance.

On January 30, 1997, EVAC had another board meeting. I (Paul Dickson) was unable to attend this meeting. It seems that at this meeting that EVAC board's decision might have been reversed. Yet the only comment in the published minutes was "Sheri felt that the Club should retain its sponsorship of this event because this is the only major event that we are in charge of." This was from the March EVAC newsletter.

There was no mention on what the rest of the board thought. And there was no record of any decision. In hindsight, it is obvious the board probably deferred to Sheri and presented no opposing views. I wouldn't have either, if I had known. But since I knew the board had previously decided to give away the star party, the one line in the newsletter made no change in my perception.

Quick Calendar

SAC Meeting

Speaker: Stan Celestian: *Galileo Mission to Jupiter*
7:30 PM, Friday, July 10

SAC Deep-Sky Meeting

Canes Venatici and Boötes
7:30 PM, Thursday, July 16

SAC Star Party

Buckeye Hills Recreation Area
Saturday, July 18

For some reason EVAC put off the next "quarterly" board meeting until nearly June. It took place on May 29th. At this meeting, which I attended, the thoughts about the All-Arizona Star Party were all immediate for there was only 3 months remaining before the star party. My impression, which is probably wrong, was that EVAC was doing this event because no one had bothered to contact another club about taking over the star party.

While attending the 1997 All-Arizona Star Party, I talked with Robert Kerwin (EVAC's Past President, who presided over the Board's decision to hand-off the star party). One of the topics we discussed was the failure to really look for other clubs to sponsor the event, especially since the summer heat hadn't left Arizona by the time of the star party. I really shouldn't say "failure to look," although neither Robert nor I knew about it, Sam Herchak had sent E-mail to various clubs around Arizona with no response.

Not to put words into Robert's mouth, but my impression of what Robert said was along the lines of "too bad we didn't get another club up north to sponsor the star party."

I don't speak to Robert about this topic again until January of this year, when Robert replied to an initial version of this article. From the meeting minutes, he did attend the January EVAC Board of Directors Meeting so he would have known whether the board had changed its collective mind. His comments didn't strike me any way other than that someone should have gotten off their rear and contacted some other clubs. In fact, his response to my message below only reinforced my belief that my

DIM MOMENTS
IN
**AMATEUR
ASTRONOMY**
by Paul Dickson

**OBSERVING
TECHNIQUES**
INVERTED
VISION

**OBSERVING
AS THE BLOOD
RUSHES DOWN
TO YOUR HEAD**

contacting the Prescott Astronomy Club was what I was supposed to do.

A couple of weeks after the All-Arizona Star Party, I had finished a repair job in Prescott Valley and had no rush to get back to Phoenix. I had some idea where Warren Parkes place of business was, so I considered dropping by and saying hi.

As we talked, the topic of the All-Arizona Star Party was bought up by me. I mentioned that EVAC had been looking for a club to take-over this event. That EVAC had been planning on giving away the 1997 event, but time had run out and had to sponsor the event themselves. I believe Warren said that his club might be interested but he needed to ask the membership first.

After I got home I wrote an E-mail message to the entire EVAC board letting them know what I had done. This message went out on October 10th. I got no negative

replies. In fact, the only reply was from Robert Kerwin, which was a positive message.

To: evac-board@psiaz.com
Subject: All-AZ Hosted by Prescott Astronomy Club
From: dickson@primenet.com (Paul Dickson)
Date: Fri, 10 Oct 1997 18:54:34 -0700
Cc: Warren Parkes <warren@pgx.com>, Robert Kerwin <p24493@namerica.mot.com>

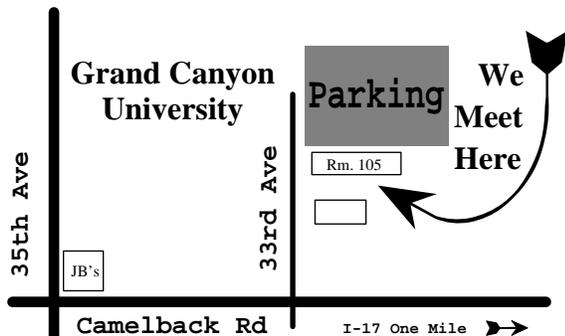
I found myself a few blocks from where Warren Parkes — president of the Prescott Astronomy Club — works this evening (Prescott Valley). So I stopped in chatted with him for about 15 minutes.

One of the subjects covered was the Prescott Astronomy Club hosting the All-Arizona Star Party next year. He was pretty sure that PAC would be willing to host this event next year. He had some concern about 40 degree nights, but I assured him that the die-hard observers will be ready for this.

A couple of weeks later (Oct. 22) I got this one-line message from Warren:

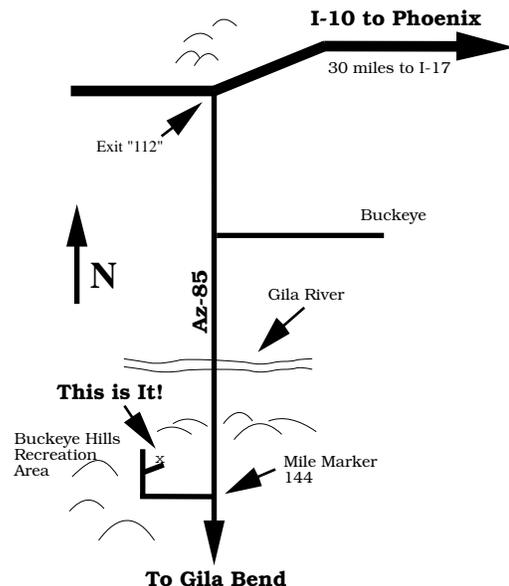
Directions to SAC Events

SAC General Meetings 7:30 PM at Grand Canyon University, Fleming Building, Room 105 — 1 mile west of Interstate 17 on Camelback Rd., north on 33rd Ave., second building on the right.



SAC Deep Sky Subgroup Meeting at John & Tom McGrath's, 11239 N. 75th St., Scottsdale, 998-4661 — Scottsdale Rd. north, Cholla St. east to 75th St., southeast corner.

SAC Star Parties at Buckeye Hills Recreation Area Interstate 10 west to Exit 112 (30 miles west of Interstate 17), then south for 10.5 miles, right at entrance to recreation area, one-half mile, on the right. No water and only pit toilets. Please arrive before sunset; allow one hour from central Phoenix.



Initial reactions to All-AZ star party from my club are positive...

Sheri Cahn, EVAC's President, and I carpool to EVAC meetings. On the night of the November EVAC meeting (the second Wednesday of that month), as we were driving to the meeting the topic of my "giving away" the All-Arizona Star Party came up. Sheri was upset that I had taken it upon myself to give away EVAC's star party.

This could only be called argument in that neither of us had access any written facts as we drove across town.

The only thing semi-resolved was that Sheri should contact Warren. I provided her with my E-mail messages to/from Warren, including Warren's E-mail address. Sheri's final judgment on the subject was that the decision on whether to give away the All-Arizona Star Party was

Comet Comments

by Don Machholz

(530) 346-8963 CC239.TXT June 8, 1998
<http://members.aol.com/cometcom/index.html>
 DonM353259@aol.com

C/1997 J2 (Meunier-Dupouy)					
Date	RA-2000-Dec	Elong	Sky	Mag	
06-21	22h28.2m	+28°18'	97°	M	11.4
06-26	22h26.1m	+27°41'	101°	M	11.4
07-01	22h23.4m	+26°58'	106°	M	11.4
07-06	22h20.2m	+26°08'	111°	M	11.3
07-11	22h16.5m	+25°09'	116°	M	11.3
07-16	22h12.2m	+24°03'	122°	M	11.3
07-21	22h07.5m	+22°48'	127°	M	11.3
07-26	22h02.4m	+21°24'	132°	M	11.3
07-31	21h56.9m	+19°51'	137°	M	11.3
08-05	21h51.3m	+18°10'	143°	M	11.3
08-10	21h45.6m	+16°21'	147°	M	11.3

Several faint comets have been discovered recently, they will remain dim. Meanwhile **Comet Stonehouse** is fainter than magnitude twelve and **Comet SOHO** fades in the southern sky.

Jean Mueller discovered a new comet while conducting the second Palomar Sky Survey. **Comet 1998 K1 (Mueller)** was found in the northern evening sky at magnitude sixteen and will not get closer to the sun than 3.7 AUs.

The Lincoln Laboratory searches the sky for asteroids and is quite successful in finding them. Within the past month it found three asteroidal objects which upon close inspection reveal a tiny coma. Often these comae are only a few arc-seconds across. One object showed no coma at all, but a tail 19 arc-seconds long. These three comets are designated **C/1998 K2 (LINEAR)**, **C/1998 K3**

(LINEAR), and **C/1998 K5 (LINEAR)**.

COMET HUNTING NOTES: At what declination (number of degrees north or south of the equator) do amateur astronomers visually discover comets? The finds range from +72 degrees to -62 degrees. From 1975 to the present, of the 43 comets found in the Northern Hemisphere, seven were found north of +45 degrees. Sixteen were between +20 and +45 degrees and the remaining 20 were found between the celestial equator and +20 degrees. As for the 34 southern comets, five were found south of -45 degrees while 16 more were between -20 and -45 degrees. The remaining 13 Southern Hemisphere comets were found between the celestial equator and -20 degrees.

1995 O1 (Hale-Bopp)					
Date	RA-2000-Dec	Elong	Sky	Mag	
06-21	06h11.4m	-50°10'	74°	E	10.3
06-26	06h16.4m	-50°26'	74°	E	10.4
07-01	06h21.4m	-50°44'	74°	M	10.4
07-06	06h26.3m	-51°06'	74°	M	10.5
07-11	06h31.2m	-51°30'	74°	M	10.5
07-16	06h36.0m	-51°57'	74°	M	10.5
07-21	06h40.8m	-52°26'	75°	M	10.6
07-26	06h45.5m	-52°58'	75°	M	10.7
07-31	06h50.0m	-53°33'	76°	M	10.7
08-05	06h54.4m	-54°10'	76°	M	10.8
08-10	06h58.7m	-54°49'	77°	M	10.8

C/1998 J1 (SOHO)					
Date	RA-2000-Dec	Elong	Sky	Mag	
06-21	07h53.4m	-34°04'	64°	E	9.4
06-26	08h11.2m	-36°56'	66°	E	9.9
07-01	08h28.1m	-39°23'	68°	E	10.3
07-06	08h44.3m	-41°33'	69°	E	10.7
07-11	08h59.8m	-43°27'	70°	E	11.1
07-16	09h14.9m	-45°11'	70°	E	11.5
07-21	09h29.5m	-46°46'	70°	E	11.8
07-26	09h43.7m	-48°13'	70°	E	12.2
07-31	09h57.6m	-49°35'	70°	E	12.5
08-05	10h11.2m	-50°52'	70°	E	12.7
08-10	10h24.6m	-52°05'	69°	E	13.0

Orbital Elements

Object:	Hale-Bopp	Meunier-Dupouy	SOHO
Peri Date:	1997 04 01.1347	1998 03 10.4365	1998 05 08.6168
Peri Dist:	0.914008 AU	3.051015 AU	0.153218 AU
Arg/Peri (2000)	130.5787°	122.6755°	110.5431°
Asc Node (2000)	282.4653°	148.8429°	351.6653°
Incl (2000):	089.4268°	091.2731°	062.9286°
Eccentricity:	0.995085	1.000760	1.0
Orbital Period:	~2500 years	Long Period	Long Period
Reference:	MPC 30738	MPC 30738	MPEC 1998-L07
Epoch:	1997 12 18	1998 03 08	1998 05 08
Absol Mag/"n":	-1.0/4.0	4.0/4.0	8.0/4.0

Such-A-Deal

SUCH-A-DEAL is a place to advertise equipment, supplies, and services related to amateur astronomy. This is a free service for SAC members and friends. SAC is not responsible for the quality of advertised items or services. All insertions must be submitted in writing.

For Sale: 12" Newtonian telescope, equatorial mount and heavy gauge metal pier, originally mounted in cement. 2 1/4-inch polar shaft with counterweights, sheet metal 6 foot tube assembly. 6 eyepieces: 6, 8.4, 12.5, 16, 32, 42mm; color filters. Believe worth \$1000, price negotiable. Contact Bill Roehr — (520) 474-8108.

up to the new EVAC Board of Directors. Since they were just elected at that November meeting, their first board meeting would not be until sometime in January.

With this decided I figured I was out of things no matter how it turned out. I get the Prescott Astronomy Club's newsletter, "The Ephemeris". The November issue made no references to the star party. The December issue, arrived, but got buried for week. When I finally opened it I discovered the Prescott Astronomy Club's preparations for the All-Arizona Star Party. The article only mentions the planning stages, but when I sent the message below (on Dec. 22), I found that they were even further along. I sent:

Well the new EVAC board does not seem to want to give up the sponsorship of the All-Arizona Star Party. They will decide for sure at their first board meeting sometime in January. ...

The Prescott Astronomy Club had already decided on September instead of October and had the Chino Valley town council vote to grant them the public grounds, meeting halls and motels, and have a number of speakers who have given their preliminary assent to speaking at a September meeting.

My message was a shock to Warren and to those who were planning the event.

This was where I posted my initial version of this article as a message to evac-board@psiaz.com. Since then, with a lot of communication, things have settled down. The plans are still on for the star party in Chino Valley, just with the name changed to Northern Arizona Star Party. EVAC will still host the All-Arizona on Ray Farnsworth's property.

I attended the April club meeting of the Prescott Astronomy Club. At that meeting, they covered some of the details of the star party. Things that had been done as well as things still yet to be done. My perception was that they had things well in hand. They were planning to have day sessions in Chino Valley, while the night sessions (and camping) would be outside of town, away from direct views of Chino Valley. They were originally planning on a public star party, but the site is remote enough to make traffic difficult.

I have tried to convey the correct history of events as I experienced them, but also had to shorten is a bit to make it worth reading. I hope I still convey most of what's happened.

I feel that both SAC and EVAC should help the

Prescott Astronomy Club by attending this star party. Arizona clubs already sponsor four star parties during the year. I doubt any would suffer much if there is a fifth.

Bits and Pieces July Club Meeting

Stan Celestian will be our speaker for the July SAC meeting. Stan is a past member and officer of SAC. He has been selected by NASA/JPL as one of their Ambassadors to Jupiter and have access to some nice slides, videos and current information.

Stan's talk will serve two purposes: to enlighten members new to astronomy about Jupiter and the Galileo Mission, and to use the membership as a sounding board to obtain a critique of his approach and knowledge.

Stan has been teaching Astronomy at Glendale Community College for 10 years and has enjoyed Astronomy as a hobby for many, many more. When he discovered that NASA was looking for people to get the word out about the Galileo Mission he applied and was selected.

Deep-Sky Group Meeting

The Deep-Sky Group is a Special Interest Group made up of people who like to discuss observing and observing techniques. They particularly like to observe objects out past the Orrt Cloud that's why they're called the Deep-Sky Group. The type of objects include stars, nebulae, and galaxies.

If you are interested in sharing your observations, or are interested in observing techniques, then by all means come join in. The meetings are held at John McGrath's house every other month on the Thursday after the SAC meeting; directions are found on page 2 of this newsletter.

Consider this to be an invitation to this meeting. This meeting is OPEN to all SAC members. All you have to bring is an interest in what objects look like when view through a telescope.

For the March Deep-Sky Meeting we will discuss the objects in Ken Reeves' May and June *Fuzzy Spot* columns (Canes Venatici and Boötes), which total 16 objects.

If you have new or old observations, bring them along. Even if you have no observations, come anyway. This is a good way to improve your observing skills.

Minutes from the May Meeting

President Paul Dickson called the meeting to order promptly at 7:30. He invited any guests to sign the guest book and to introduce themselves.

Jack Jones gave the treasure report, and attempted to pass out several name tags. He managed to pass out three, which received much applause [Check below to see whether you have a name tag waiting for you.]

Paul Dickson announced the upcoming star parties. Dean Kettelson provided some additional information on the Grand Canyon star party, and also mentioned the upcoming Kitt Peak star party which still has some openings.

Rich Walker give a Public Events announcement. Due to some miscommunication, the Estrella Park star party was canceled, however two scopes plus a Tasco still showed up as well as a handful of interested public. Thanks to those that showed up. There is a public star party on May 30th at Thunderbird Park.

AJ Crayon invited all to this months Deep-Sky meeting, no matter what the weather is like! He once again tried to peddle some SAC 20 year anniversary T-shirts, of which there are 11 left. He succeeded on selling one, so look forward to 10 more for next month.

Chuck Hilliker from the Sun City West Astronomy Club introduced their new web page. Take a look at it at www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Launchpad/2529.

Steve Coe vividly described the disappointing weather at the Sentinel star party. There were even people with much optimism driving in during the rain-storm!

For show and tell, there was..... nothing!

At the break, 41 people were counted.

Following the break, vice president Gerry Rattley introduced Tom Polakis who gave an excellent talk on CCD astronomy from his back yard. With his ST-7 CCD camera mounted on a 13" scope, he was able to reach to about 18th mag from Mill and Southern. A very informative talk and nice images.

At 9:35, Paul adjourned the meeting and invited anyone interested in continuing the discussions over to JB's, of which 14 attended.

—Ken Reeves, SAC Secretary

Name Tags Waiting

The following people have name tags waiting for them. Please pick them up at the next club meeting!

Shiela Williams, Mike Williams, Lindsey Williams, Jack Anderson, Rose-Marie Anderson, Carol Ehle, Steven Ehle, Jody Himber, and Bob Starkey

Minutes from the June Meeting

President Paul Dickson called the meeting to order at 7:45 with much activity due to the swap meet. He invited any guests to sign the guest book and introduce themselves, of which 3 did.

Jack Jones gave the treasure report.

Paul Dickson mentioned all the upcoming star parties, including the Grand Canyon Star Party which was just getting underway.

A.J. Crayon talked about the Deep-Sky group and invited all to attend. He also brought up several tid-bits and trivia from the JPL website as a lead in to attempt to unload some of the SAC 20 year T-shirts.

Steve Coe talked about the successful novice outings so far, and is considering a "shallow-sky" session after the monsoons are over. The planets will be back in the evening sky, and it will probably be during a crescent moon.

Gene Lucas talked about the Amateur Photoelectric Photometry Conference that was held prior to Riverside, and invited anyone who was interested in the subject to contact him. He also mentioned that the weather at Riverside was good, as was the turnout.

Due to auto problems, our Properties Manager didn't make it to the meeting with the slide projector and screen, so there was no show and tell. Slides from this month will be shown at the next meeting.

Gerry Rattley mentioned upcoming speakers for the meeting, including both amateurs and professionals. There is much to look forward to the rest of the year. Gerry also did a show and tell about atlases, strongly recommending the CCD Image atlas by Vickers, and then did a comparison of the Sky Atlas 2000, Uranometria 2000, and the Millennium Sky Atlas.

With this, Paul Dickson formally adjourned the meeting, where the 40 people present quickly scrambled for the rest of the swap meet. Following this, 15 people continued the discussion at JB's

Coming Events

Star Parties

Northern Arizona Star Party	Sep. 18-19
All-Arizona Star Party	Oct. 16-17
Starry Nights Festival	Oct. 16-18

Newsletter Deadline

Mail items for Such-a-Deal at least two weeks before the end of the month. Articles that need to be published in a timely fashion must be submitted or the newsletter editor notified of the article at least 6 weeks before month they are published. Items arriving too late for an issue will be included in the next newsletter.

Fuzzy Spot

by Ken Reeves

Ophiuchus

July 1998

Ophiuchus is responsible for holding the Serpent safely in the sky and keeping him from striking down on all of us. Ophiuchus contains several unique properties in the sky. It is responsible for splitting the constellation Serpens into two parts, it is the only non-zodiacal constellation that the ecliptic passes through, and the "western" arm of the visible Milky Way is pinched off by the great rift in Ophiuchus.

With the Spring skies with their galaxies behind us, Ophiuchus brings us into the summer skies. This area is globular country. The SAC database lists 24 clusters, only exceeded by Sagittarius with 30. There are 7 Messier Globulars, 13 Herschel 400 Globulars, but surprisingly no SAC 110 Best of the NGC clusters.

So lets jump into these globulars, and throw in a few planetary nebulae and open clusters for variety.

NGC 6171 (16h32.5 -13 03) A double whammy, you get a Messier object (M-107) along with the Herschel 400 Globular. This object is pretty big, pretty bright, with about 50 stars resolved over a very granular haze. There is not a lot of brightening or condensation toward the middle, but there is a possible elongation E/W. There is a real nice star pattern forming a sort of cross around the cluster.

NGC 6235 (16h53.4 -22 11) This globular was seen as somewhat large, little faint, and is enclosed in a nice triangle of stars which points WSW. There is a brighter center over a fairly faint halo which grows with averted vision. The globular is slightly granular but I was unable to resolve any stars.

NGC 6284 (17h04.5 -24 46) A slightly small globular which is fairly bright, contains much brighter middle which seems to be on the N side. Use averted vision to make it grow slightly and help bring out very granular detail.

NGC 6287 (17h05.2 -22 42) Here is a very obvious globular. It is fairly bright, contains a bright center and a fainter halo elongated NE/SW/ The core is offset to N side of halo. There were no stars resolved, but averted vision makes the globular appear granular. Take note of several faint stars to W.

NGC 6293 (17h10.2 -26 35) This globular is somewhat large, pretty bright, contains a very bright middle and a fairly bright halo. Some stars are resolved, particularly in the middle/halo boundary, and perhaps a few more in the halo. Using averted vision, I estimated I resolved about 20 stars. The background is granular with the halo showing the most granularity.

NGC 6304 (17h14.5 -29 28) A globular cluster that is somewhat large, somewhat bright, and contains a very granular and triangular shaped middle. The cluster fades out slowly then suddenly to a pretty large and round halo which is faint enough that I can't determine any granularity. I was able to occasionally resolve stars in the middle, but was unable to hold them.

NGC 6316 (17h16.6 -28 08) Yet another globular cluster, this one is pretty bright, pretty small, round (as most globulars are). In brightness, this one has a smooth center then sudden drop to an even halo. There is perhaps some very slightly granularity, but I was unable to resolve any stars.

NGC 6355 (17h24.0 -26 21) The last globular of the month, the one is pretty small, somewhat faint, with a round

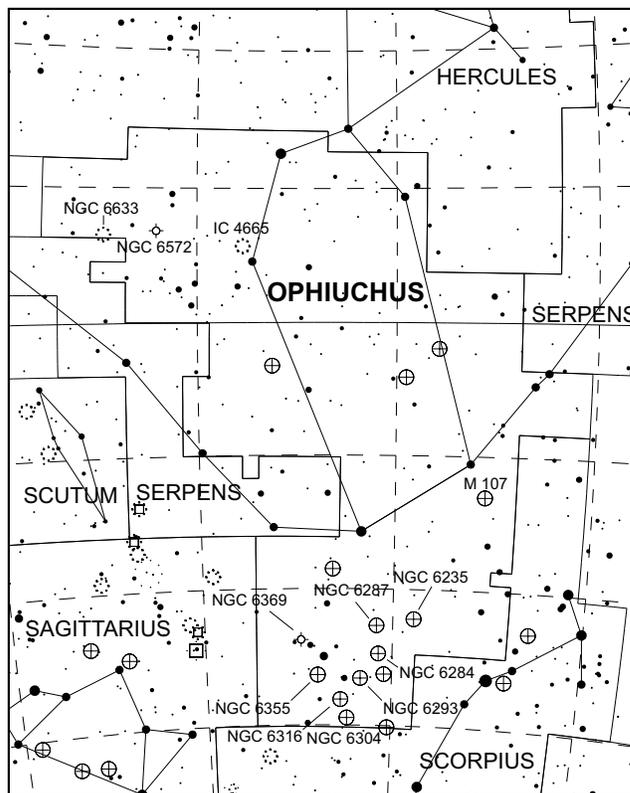
halo, but the middle is elongated N/S. I was unable to resolve any stars, nor even note any granularity either in the middle or on the outskirts. At 170x, I was only able to suspect some granularity at best. Probably the poorest globular in this column.

NGC 6369 (17h29.3 -23 46) Finally a break from globulars, this planetary is pretty bright, but not very big. At 140x I saw an even glow, with some anularity seen using averted vision. There is a bright star to S, but the central star was not seen. Using the UHC filter does not do much.

NGC 6572 (18h12.1 +06 51) This planetary nebula is very bright, pretty small, and shows a definite bluish tinge to it. Cranking up the power to 240x shows an even glow with possible elongation N/S, quite bright for this power. Averted vision doesn't help much at any power.

NGC 6633 (18h27.7 +06 34) Here is an open cluster which required low power. At 45x, I saw it as very bright, very large filling the field of view. There are some nice curving strings of stars in this cluster. By the way, this observation was taken from my light polluted back yard.

IC 4665 (17h46.3 +05 43) Break out the lowest power eyepiece you have for this open cluster. Better yet, take a break, kick back on your lounge chair and look at this cluster with binoculars. At 35x (in the scope), I considered this cluster as very large, very bright, extremely loose, and somewhat poor. I counted 70 stars in 3 levels of with the brightest level being very equal and making up the bulk of the cluster. There is not much of a shape, so I considered it as irregularly round.



Herschel 400 Objects

6171, 6235, 6284, 6287, 6293, 6304, 6316, 6342, 6355
6356, 6369, 6401, 6426, 6517, 6633

SAC's 110 Best of the NGC Objects

6369, 6572, 6633

July 1998

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All Times are Mountain Standard Time			First Quarter Moon 11:41 A.M. 1	2	3	Last Year Mars Pathfinder Landed on Mars 4
5	6	7	EVAC Meeting (SCC: Rm. PS172) 8	Full Moon 9:02 A.M. 9	SAC Meeting Grand Canyon University, Fleming Rm. 105 10	11
12	13	14	Tomorrow Last Quarter Moon 8:14 A.M. 15	SAC Deep Sky Meeting 7:30 P.M. 16	Mercury at greatest elongation 27° (evening) 17	SAC Star Party Buckeye Hills (members&guests) 18
19	Sun enters Cancer 3 P.M. 20	21	Tomorrow Neptune at opposition 22	New Moon 6:44 A.M. 23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	First Quarter Moon 5:04 P.M. 31	

SAC Information

Area Code (602)

President & SACNEWS Editor	Paul Dickson	Ans. & FAX: 841-0509 dickson@primenet.com
Vice President	Gerry Rattley	892-5698
Treasurer	Jack Jones	944-5488 looka.fuzzy@mcione.com
Secretary	Ken Reeves	878-9460 ken.reeves@cas.honeywell.com
Properties	Adam Sunshine	780-1386 asunshine@netzone.com
Public Events	Rich Walker	997-0711 rhwalker@aztec.asu.edu
Deep-Sky Group	A.J. Crayon	938-3277 acrayon@primenet.com

E-Mail Mailing Lists

SAC-mls is a mailing list for club announcements and quick notification of astronomical events.

SAC-Board is for SAC business. All club members are welcome to participate.

AZ-Observing is a fairly general mailing list about observing in Arizona. Where the star parties are and who's going, as well as what's up.

To join, send E-mail with the Subject: subscribe to the "-request" mailing address at psiaz.com. For example, you would send the request for AZ-Observing to AZ-Observing-request@psiaz.com.

SAC Web Sites

www.accessarizona.com/groups/group_access.html
www.primenet.com/~dickson/sac.html

Saguaro Astronomy Club Member Services Form

Membership

Memberships are for the calendar year and are prorated as follows: Jan - Mar 100%, Apr - Jun 75%, Jul - Sep 50%, Oct - Dec 25%.

- \$28.....Individual Membership
- \$42.....Family Membership (one newsletter)
- \$100.....Business Membership (includes advertising)
- \$4.....Nametag for members
- \$14.....Newsletter Only

Subscriptions

The following magazines are available to members. Subscribe or renew by paying the club treasurer. You will receive the discounted club rate only by allowing the club treasurer to renew your subscription.

- Sky & Telescope.....\$27.00 for one year
- Astronomy.....\$20.00 for one year

Write your name, address, phone number, and E-mail address in the space below.

Make checks payable to SAC.
Mail the completed form to:

Jack Jones
SAC Treasurer
2313 W Sierra St
Phoenix AZ 85029

SAC and SAC Meetings

Saguaro Astronomy Club (SAC) was formed in 1977 to promote fellowship and the exchange of scientific information among its members — amateur astronomers. SAC meets monthly for both general meetings and star parties, and regularly conducts and supports public programs on astronomy.

SAC meetings are usually held on the Friday nearest the full moon. This means that over the course of the year, meetings are not held on the same week of the month. The same is true of the club's star parties. Star parties at Buckeye Hills Recreation Area are mostly held on the Saturday of the third quarter moon.

SAC General Meetings: 7:30 PM at Grand Canyon University, Fleming Building, room 105 — one mile west of Interstate 17 on Camelback Rd, north on 33rd Ave., second building on the right. See inside for a map to the meeting location.

1998 SAC Meetings

Jan. 9
Feb. 13
Mar. 13
Apr. 10
May 8
Jun. 12
Jul. 10
Aug. 7
Sep. 11
Oct. 2
Nov. 6
Dec. 5 Party

1998 SAC Star Parties

Date	Sunset	Moonrise
Feb. 21	6:18PM	3:40AM
Mar. 21	6:39PM	2:23AM
Apr. 18	6:59PM	1:08AM
May 16	7:19PM	11:54AM
Jun. 20	7:37PM	3:27AM
Jul. 18	7:34PM	2:10AM
Aug. 15	7:12PM	12:57AM
Sep. 12	6:37PM	11:45PM
Oct. 10	6:00PM	10:32AM
Nov. 14	5:27PM	3:48AM
Dec. 12	5:22PM	2:35AM

SACNEWS

c/o Paul Dickson
7714 N 36th Avenue
Phoenix AZ 85051

Stamp

First Class Mail

Inside:

- Birth of the Northern Arizona Star Party by Paul Dickson
- Dim Moments by Paul Dickson
- Comet Comments by Don Machholz
- Fuzzy Spot by Ken Reeves

SAC Meeting — July 10
Deep-Sky Meeting — July 16
SAC Star Party — July 18