

# THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

## OAS Executive Committee

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Treasurer- Doug Say  
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Vol. 39 Number 2

October 2009

<http://ogdenastronomy.com/>

## Meeting Announcement

Weber State University Physics Professor John Sohl will present an update on the HARBOR program. HARBOR ("High Altitude Reconnaissance Balloon for Outreach and Research") is a high altitude balloon system designed to be a near-space platform for research projects in science and engineering. The July 19, 2009 launch of HARBOR reached an altitude of 98,432ft above sea level! We have now had several flights to nearly 100,000 feet. Current program status and future plans will be discussed along with how you can get involved if you wish. We will also show some amazing video taken from a camera mounted on the payload.

Lots of great information, pictures, and video can be found at the HARBOR website:  
<http://space.weber.edu/HARBOR>

John will also have several laser power meters available at the meeting to use for measuring the power output of your laser pointers. He will also discuss laser safety and legal issues associated with both high and low power laser pointers.

## OAS Minutes – September 2009

The annual meeting of the Ogden Astronomical Society was held on September 10, 2009 in the Ott Planetarium at Weber State University. It was called to order by President Dustin Klein at 7:30. Dustin highlighted some astronomy news including the successful test of the Aries 1 rocket motor at Thiokol. The space shuttle Discovery is spending another night in orbit. The weather wouldn't allow them to land today.

Doug Say gave a financial update on our current bank balance.

David Dunn proposed that we attempt to enter into a webpage maintenance agreement with Tyson Harris. Another group that Craig Browne is associated with pays him \$15/hour to maintain their page. The proposal to enter into a similar agreement was voted on and approved.

Another proposal was made that we purchase a set of 3 very nice Meade eyepieces. They are available from Meade for \$710 dollars including shipping and a case to carry them in. Steve Martin has a set of them and they have used one of them in BOB. At our Antelope Island star party on the 19<sup>th</sup>, we will verify that all 3 eyepieces work in BOB. We will also check other sources for the eyepieces to make sure that we are getting the best price. A vote was taken and approval given to purchase the eyepieces for up to \$710.

The Chairman for the nominating committee, Mike Klein called for last minute nominations. There were none. Since the only one person was running for each office, a motion was made to accept the nominations for this year's officers by acclamation. The vote was taken and accepted. The officers for this year are:

Dustin Klein – President  
Pam Smith – Vice President  
David Dunn – Secretary  
Doug Say – Treasurer

There is a Barnes and Noble fundraiser on 11/6.

Farmington Jr. High is having a star party on 10/22.

The Pleasant Valley Library is having a star party on 9/23.

We have a Horizon School star party on 9/24.

There is a Boy Scout star party in Toole on 9/18. This is not sponsored by us but some members might want to support it.

Dustin and Mike are planning to attend Dead Horse Point in October. I am planning to be to Curlew. I know that all of us would like to see a good turnout at the star parties. It is a lot more fun to observe with others.

### Star Party Schedule

#### Public Star Parties

Oct. 10 Antelope Island

#### Requested Star Parties

Oct. 13 Sunset Jr High

Oct. 22 Farmington Jr High

Oct. 23 Crestview Elementary

#### Our Private Star Parties are as follows.

Oct 9 LCROSS – Doug Say’s yard

Oct 15-18 Dead Horse Point

Oct 15-18 Curlew

### Green Lasers for Sale

Kay Hargis has 9 Jasper straight line green laser pointers for sale. Kay purchased them at a volume discount. They are \$31 each and come with 2 AAA batteries and a plastic case. Kay will be at the meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup>. You can also reach Kay at n7kh@juno.com.

### Astronomy Magazine

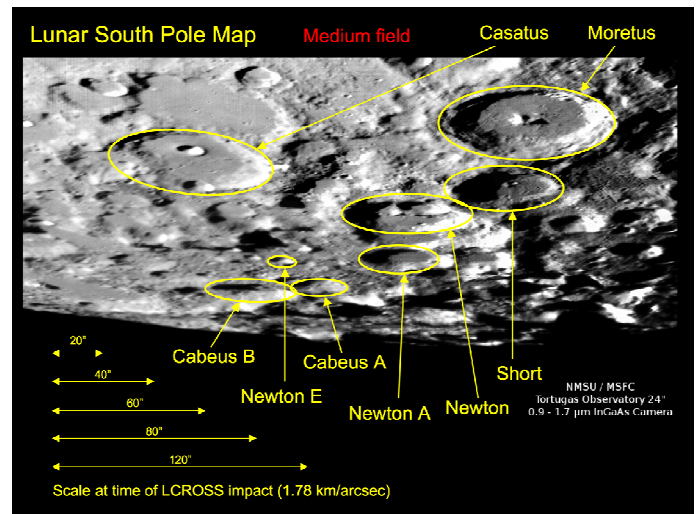
If you want to renew or subscribe to Astronomy Magazine, you will need to get with Doug at this month’s meeting. Astronomy only allows the club to update the list once a year.

## Year in Space Calendar

Lee Priest will be taking orders in the September and October meetings for the Year in Space Calendar. If we order more than 10 we get free shipping. This would make the calendars \$10 each. As you order, you should turn your money into Doug since we will only order the quantity that are paid for. They ship sometime in October so we will order them after the October meeting we should have them for the November meeting. Anyone that wants one but doesn’t plan to be to ether meeting can contact Lee at levae@aol.com or 801-391-5729 and mail a check to me made out to the club.

## LCROSS

The LCROSS mission will impact the Moon at 5:30am MT on October 9<sup>th</sup>. As a club, we are planning to meet at Doug Say’s business in Farr West to observe the impact. After the impact, we will adjourn to a local diner to eat breakfast. I will have additional information at the meeting for those that are interested. NASA recommends at least at 10” telescope. You will need to use high power (300 to 400) to observe it. The high power will reduce the brightness of the moon and allow you to look at the correct area as well.



**Pictures by Les Bitton**



Moon on 9/23



Moon on 9/24



Jupiter & the Galilean Moons. 9/24



Guests at the Horizon School star party.



Guests at the Pleasant Valley Library star party



Guests at the Pleasant Valley Library star party