



THE STAR DIAGONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE OGDEN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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OAS Minutes – April 2011

THE PREZ SEZ

Greetings Earthlings;

Well the Prez is having a, mid-life crisis, the skies will never clear up again anyway, need some extra money, eyepiece case is getting to heavy astro-item fire sale (w/a few guitars in the mix). As some of you may have noticed, posted on Yahoo, I am selling some of my heavy weights, Nagler, Ziess, Pentax, along with many mirror blanks, plate, BVC, Pyrex, EQ mount, bino viewer, grinding machine, etc.. Took a bunch of pictures, put them on Astromart w/ descriptions and prices and "Nellie bar the door" it has been hectic. Juggling the e-mails with the right person, with the right item, with the right price, with the newly negotiated price, with the newly negotiated price and shipping, and, would you like cheese on that?

I have sold and haggled with east and west coast. The Powermate went to Canada, the Nagler to Germany, Homossi, for the 18 inch Pyrex, wanted my bank account and routing # for a transfer, I said no. So he has a friend in MD who will send me a money order for the blank, I will ship to San Fran, but Homossi lives in So. Korea, this one has been fun.

I really hate letting some of this stuff go, but over the years some of these items were collecting more dust than photons. When all is sold and done I will be slimmed down to about 15 eyepieces, 5 pair of binoculars, 6 telescopes, hordes of filters and lasers and....crap! I better take some more pictures.

The PREZ

The Annual meeting of the Ogden Astronomical Society was held on April 14, 2011 in the Ott Planetarium at Weber State University.

President Vanderhule called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Business:

Ron met with the leaders at Antelope Island. Because of budget issues, all of the state parks are expected to generate income to cover their costs. This means that OAS members will need to pay the \$9.00 entrance fee to get on the island for the public star parties. We posted this on OAS_News and received some feedback. We also met as an executive committee and discussed it as well. In the executive meeting we discovered that there are changes happening at Antelope Island that could change this again. Last time we had this issue with Antelope Island we dropped them and went elsewhere. We were not able to find a consistent location that we could use. We also had issues getting people to come out. The feeling of the committee is that, if we can get enough members willing to pay the \$9.00 and come to the island, we will continue to hold the parties there. That will allow us to document our benefit to the Island and market ourselves a little better. It is very difficult to market ourselves when we are only getting a few public to each event. A show of hands was called for to show how many would support us and pay to do the parties at Antelope Island. 15 of the people present raised their hands.

The committee also discussed in our meeting that some members wouldn't be able to afford to pay to go to the Star Parties. A motion was presented to the club that the club could be billed for anyone that followed a procedure negotiated with the Island.

This was seconded and approved by the majority vote.

Announcements:

Endeavor Elementary has requested that Wayne do a star party for the whole school on April 18. Several members are planning to help out. Watch OAS_News for info in case it is cancelled or rescheduled.

The Adams Elementary Star Party is scheduled April 28th.

The remainder of the meeting was a couple of presentations by Dave Dunn from the Night Sky Network. He had the club make "Pocket Solar Systems". He used our new kit on Meteors. A volunteer came up and attempted to classify several rocks as Meteorites or Meteor wrongs. We also watched a couple of the training sessions from the DVD.

The meeting adjourned. Many members headed to Village Inn in South Ogden to eat and visit.

David Dunn

Star Party Schedule

Our Proposed Public Star Parties are as follows.

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|--------|-------------------------------|
| May 6 | Kent's Market (Astronomy Day) |
| May 7 | Antelope Island |
| Jun 4 | Antelope Island |
| Aug 20 | Antelope Island |
| Oct 1 | Antelope Island (Sept) |
| Oct 8 | Kent's Market |
| Oct 22 | Antelope Island |

Our Requested Star Parties (Schools, etc).

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|--------------|---------------------|
| April 18 | Endeavor Elementary |
| May 4 or 5 | Adams Elementary |
| Jun 27 or 28 | Mantua Girls Camp |

Our Private Star Parties are as follows.

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|----------------|----------------------|
| Jun 29- July 2 | ALCon (Bryce Canyon) |
| Jul 27-31 | Monte Cristo |
| Aug 24-28 | Monte Cristo |
| Sep 23-25 | Curlew |